



**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES**
 Department of Human Services
 311 West Saratoga Street
 Baltimore MD 21201

FIA ACTION TRANSMITTAL

Control Number: 23-14

Effective Date: May 1, 2023

Issuance Date: April 10, 2023

**TO: DIRECTORS, LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES
 DEPUTY/ASSISTANT DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY INVESTMENT,
 FAMILY INVESTMENT SUPERVISORS AND ELIGIBILITY STAFF
 ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION DIVISION SUPERVISORS AND
 ELIGIBILITY STAFF**

FROM: LA SHERRA AYALA, FIA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 
DEBBIE RUPPERT, MDH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 

**RE: SUNSETTING OF MEDICAID CONTINUOUS COVERAGE
 REQUIREMENT**

**PROGRAM AFFECTED: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MA)
 LONG-TERM CARE MEDICAID (LTC)**

ORIGINATING OFFICE: OFFICE OF PROGRAMS

SUMMARY

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 requires states to phase out the Medicaid continuous coverage requirement effective March 31, 2023. Per the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), of the options given to states, Maryland has extended the continuous coverage flexibilities through April 30, 2023.

The sunseting of the continuous coverage requirement will result in a return to several pre-Public Health Emergency (PHE) MA/LTC policies and program rules effective May 1, 2023. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Closing cases for failure to complete a redetermination
- Closing cases when customers fail to meet ongoing eligibility requirements
- Allowing cases to correctly trickle to lower coverage groups
- Allowing spend-down cases to close at the end of the six-month certification period

These closures will begin effective May 31, 2023.

FIA is working closely with the MDTHINK team to restore MA policies and case processing within the Eligibility and Enrollment (E&E) system. Similar efforts are being undertaken by the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE) as it relates to the Maryland Health Connection (MHC).

FIA/OMEP will continue to work closely with MDH and MHBE to provide guidance for case processing, including required actions for existing cases. This includes efforts around the provision of training and refresher training. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

Additional information will also be shared regarding communication with customers, facilities, and community partners.

REQUIRED ACTION:

- LDSS staff should continue to adhere to the PHE-related MA/LTC policies through April 30, 2023.
- LDSS should ensure an adequate number of staff have access to and are trained to perform eligibility determinations and other ongoing case management tasks for both MHC and E&E MA cases.

INQUIRIES:

If you have any questions regarding this Action Transmittal or any other program policies, please submit it using the [FIA Policy Information Request Form](#). If you work in Montgomery County, you may submit your policy questions via email at fia.policy@maryland.gov. For systems questions, please email fia.bsdm@maryland.gov.

For MA policy questions: Direct Non-MAGI and MAGI policy questions to the Maryland Department of Health, Office of Eligibility Services at mdh.oesinquiries@maryland.gov.

cc: DHS Executive Staff
FIA Management Staff
MDH Executive Staff
Constituent Services
Office of Administrative Hearings