MEDICAID UNWINDING UPDATE

Continuous Enrollment Requirement ends March 31, 2023; Eligibility Redeterminations Resume with Terminations Beginning as Early as April 1, 2023

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced in an informational bulletin (CIB) that state Medicaid programs can begin Medicaid eligibility redeterminations beginning February 1, 2023 and can begin disenrolling ineligible individuals by April 1, 2023.

The continuous enrollment requirement permits individuals to remain on Medicaid regardless of a change in circumstance – like income – that would otherwise deem them ineligible for coverage. This began at the start of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) and was intended to keep people enrolled throughout the PHE. Now, states are permitted to return to normal eligibility and enrollment operations.

Medicaid enrollees can expect to receive letters from their state’s Medicaid program requesting updated contact information, income verification, or other information needed to determine an individual’s eligibility. States may begin this process as soon as February 1 but this timeline will vary from state to state. It is now more important than ever that individuals ensure their contact information is up to date so that they do not miss these notifications.

Each state’s redetermination cycle varies – usually between 60 to 90 days – so individuals can expect to be disenrolled if they no longer qualify for Medicaid coverage as early as April 1. However, this timeline will vary greatly for individual enrollees. See the graphic on the next page for a sample timeline, provided in the CIB.

Check out NIHB’s Medicaid Unwinding page to download the Medicaid Unwinding Toolkit for Tribal Enrollment Assisters, which includes guidance, FAQs, and customizable graphics to use for social media education and clinic use.

Enrollment Assisters and patient benefit coordinators, please contact Kristen Bitsue with questions: KBitsuie@nihb.org | For more information on the CIB, please contact Hannah Brennan: HBrennan@nihb.org