

Integrated Care Updates

CMS Immunization and Vaccine Resources in Multiple Languages

On September 28, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released resources to help health plans, providers, and community organizations promote flu vaccination. Flu vaccinations are particularly important for dually eligible individuals, who are at greater risk of infection from COVID-19 or flu. CMS has posted shareable resources like social media and blog content and [graphics in 13 languages](#). Click [this link](#) for more information about the CMS immunization and vaccine resources.

CMS Released Revised Version of Document Describing Categories of Dually Eligible Individuals

On September 7, CMS released a revised version of its [Dually Eligible Individuals – Categories](#) document, which explains the different eligibility categories for people who are dually eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. The document also provides 2023 income and asset limits for each category. As a reminder the categories include:

Full-Benefit Dually Eligible Individuals:

- Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries with full-benefit Medicaid (QMB Plus)
- Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries with full-benefit Medicaid (SLMB Plus)
- Full-benefit Medicaid Only (“Other Full-Benefit Dual Eligible” (Other FBDE))

Partial-Benefit Dual Eligible Individuals:

- Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries without other Medicaid (QMB Only)
- Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiaries without other Medicaid (SLMB-Only)
- Qualifying Individuals (QIs)
- Qualified Disabled and Working Individuals (QDWIs)

CMS Issues Final Rule Streamlining Eligibility and Enrollment Processes in Medicaid and CHIP

On September 18, CMS issued the “Streamlining Medicaid; Medicare Savings Programs Eligibility Determination and Enrollment” [final rule](#) (CMS-2421-F), which finalizes the MSP-related provisions from the CMS [notice of proposed rulemaking](#), published on September 7, 2022. The final rule includes several eligibility and enrollment changes for Medicaid, including:

- Automatically enrolling Medicare-entitled SSI beneficiaries – with some exceptions-- into the QMB group;
-

- Better leveraging the Medicare Part D Low Income Subsidy (LIS) program to enroll eligible individuals in the MSPs, including maximizing use of LIS “leads” data and defining “family of the size involved” for MSP groups to include at least those individuals included in the definition of “family size” in the LIS program;
- Reducing the burden on MSP applicants to produce certain types of documentation prior to enrollment; and
- Ensuring the earliest possible effective date of QMB coverage for individuals who must pay a premium to enroll in Part A and reside in states that use the group payer arrangement to pay Part A premiums (“group payer states”).

For a more detailed explanation of the MSP-related provisions of the final rule and the reasons for them, see [ICRC's September 26, 2023 e-alert](#).

September 2023 Enrollment in Medicare-Medicaid Plans, PACE Organizations and Applicable Integrated Plans

ICRC has developed a new, consolidated format for sharing enrollment in Medicare-Medicaid Plans (MMPs), Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) organizations, and Applicable Integrated Plans (AIPs). The September enrollment data in the new consolidated format is now available on the ICRC website at: [Monthly Integrated Care Exclusively Aligned Enrollment Report: Dually Eligible Individuals Enrolled in MMPs, PACE, and AIPs](#).

New Resources on the ICRC Website

- [State Strategies for Encouraging Enrollment in Integrated Care Programs](#) (August 2023): This webinar discusses strategies states can use to encourage enrollment in integrated care programs, including communicating the value of integrated care to dually eligible individuals through direct outreach and education, partnering with State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs) and other trusted organizations to educate dually eligible individuals, and leveraging policy options to promote enrollment in integrated care programs. This webinar also describes additional factors that can affect integrated care program enrollment.

Key Upcoming Dates

- **October 1, 2023** - Medicare Advantage (MA) and Medicare Part D prescription drug plan marketing begins for CY2024.
 - **October 2, 2023** - Deadline by which enrollees of non-renewing Medicare Part D and MA plans, including MMPs and Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans (D-SNPs), must receive final, personalized beneficiary non-renewal notification letters.
 - **October 2, 2023** - Plans submit transactions for approved crosswalk exceptions according to the End-of-Year Enrollment and Payment Systems Processing Information HPMS memo.
 - **Early-Mid October, 2023** - Medicare Advantage and Part D plan Star Ratings released on Medicare.gov.
-

- **Mid-October, 2023** - CMS releases CY2025 Notice of Intent to Apply (NOIA) for new contracts or contract extensions.
- **October 15, 2023** - Deadline for all Medicare Part D and MA plans, including MMPs and D-SNPs to send the following documents (or notification, if permitted) to current enrollees: Evidence of Coverage (EOC); abridged or comprehensive formularies; and provider/pharmacy directories.
- **October 15, 2023** - Medicare Annual Election Period begins. Medicare beneficiaries can enroll in MA or Part D plans for CY2024.
- **October 27, 2023** - Plan-submitted rollover transactions must be complete (if required) according to the End-of-Year Enrollment and Payment Systems Processing Information Memo.

ABOUT THE INTEGRATED CARE RESOURCE CENTER

The Integrated Care Resource Center is a national initiative of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to help states improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of care for individuals dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. The state technical assistance activities are coordinated by Mathematica and the Center for Health Care Strategies. For more information, visit www.integratedcareresourcecenter.com.

[Subscribe](#) for updates from the Integrated Care Resource Center.
Send queries to: ICRC@chcs.org

To unsubscribe, send an e-mail with "Unsubscribe ICRC" in the subject line to ICRC@chcs.org