

NUMBER

#23-21-12

DATE

April 28, 2023

OF INTEREST TO

County Directors

Social Services Supervisors and
StaffFinancial Assistance Supervisors
and WorkersTribal Chairpersons and Tribal
Health DirectorsNavigators, Certified
Application Counselors and
Brokers**ACTION/DUE DATE**

Please read. Informational only.

EXPIRATION DATE

April 28, 2025

DHS Cancels Unpaid MinnesotaCare Premiums and Temporarily Waives Premiums for all Enrollees

TOPIC

DHS has canceled unpaid MinnesotaCare premiums and waives premiums for May 2023 through June 2024 coverage for all enrollees.

PURPOSE

This bulletin announces the cancellation of unpaid MinnesotaCare premiums and the waiver of premiums for May 2023 through June 2024 coverage for all enrollees.

CONTACT

County and tribal agencies should submit policy questions via HealthQuest. All others should direct questions to:

Health Care Eligibility and Access Division
PO Box 64989
540 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55164-0989

SIGNED

JULIE MARQUARDT/s/
Interim Assistant Commissioner/Interim State Medicaid Director
Health Care Administration

TERMINOLOGY NOTICE

The terminology used to describe the people we serve has changed over time. The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the use of "People First" language.

I. Background

On April 29, 2020, DHS published [Bulletin #20-21-02](#) which announced temporary policy changes to Minnesota Health Care Programs during the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE), including the temporary policy to keep MinnesotaCare coverage open if enrollees did not pay their premiums timely. Enrollees who did not pay their premiums during the PHE were expected to pay their past due premiums after the PHE ends.

In 2021, the Minnesota legislature passed a law that prevents DHS from collecting unpaid MinnesotaCare premiums that accrued during the PHE, when the PHE ends on May 11, 2023. Additionally, the 2023 Minnesota legislature passed a law that temporarily waives MinnesotaCare premiums for all enrollees for coverage from May 2023 through June 2024.

This bulletin announces the cancellation of unpaid MinnesotaCare premiums that accrued during the PHE and the waiver of premiums for all MinnesotaCare enrollees from May 2023 through June 2024.

II. Unpaid MinnesotaCare Premiums Cancelled

DHS has cancelled all unpaid MinnesotaCare premiums for months of coverage that occurred during the PHE. Unpaid premium balances for April 2020 coverage through May 2023 coverage, no longer appear on MinnesotaCare premium invoices beginning with the invoices issued on April 14, 2023, for June 2023 coverage.

III. MinnesotaCare Premiums Temporarily Waived

Beginning with the premium for May 2023 coverage and through the premium for June 2024 coverage, DHS will waive MinnesotaCare premiums for all enrollees including for people who are newly eligible for MinnesotaCare.

MinnesotaCare enrollees who were sent a premium invoice with a premium greater than \$0 for May 2023 coverage, are not required to pay the premium to remain enrolled. Enrollees who make a payment for a coverage month between May 2023 and June 2024 will receive a refund of the amount paid if they have a credit of \$5 or more on their account. Credits of less than \$5 will remain on the account.

People who are currently eligible for MinnesotaCare, but whose coverage has not yet started because they have not paid their first premium, will have MinnesotaCare coverage beginning on May 1, 2023.

For people who are newly determined eligible for MinnesotaCare on or after April 1, 2023, through May 31, 2024, MinnesotaCare coverage begins the month after eligibility is approved.

IV. Action Required

This bulletin is for informational purposes and no worker action is required.

V. Legal Authorities

Laws of Minnesota 2021, 1st Spec. Sess., chapter 7, article 1, section 36

Laws of Minnesota 2023, chapter 22, section 2

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory

This information is available in accessible formats for people with disabilities by calling 651-297-3862 or toll-free at 800-657-3672 or by using your preferred relay service. For other information on disability rights and protections, contact the agency's ADA coordinator.