

Overview of Recent Changes to PE for Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health Agencies

MCAH Subcontractors as QEs

Local public health agencies and other organizations that hold a subcontract with Maternal, Child, & Adolescent Health (MCAH) Agencies for services can now provide Presumptive Eligibility. Previously, no staff working for an agency that has a subcontract with a Qualified Entity (QE) could provide PE. CMS has alluded that these individuals can become qualified entities as there are no clear conflicts of interest, as long as there is accountability and staff are getting the training consistent with state policy. DHS has made it clear from the start that the intent was not to prevent MCAH agencies from serving Iowa communities. We now have official word that subcontracted agencies can continue to provide Presumptive Eligibility for the main MCAH agency.

Instructions for becoming a QE:

Staff of MCH subcontracted agencies who wish to become QEs should review the [MPEP training](#) and complete the [MPEP Access Request Form](#). These forms can be found at <http://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/providers/tools-trainings-and-services/provider-tools>.

Note: This change is only for Maternal, Child, & Adolescent Health Agencies. Therefore, there will not be a formal message from IME, as the subcontractor policy still applies to hospitals.

Providing PE for all Groups Except BCCT

On June 27th, 2014, IME sent out an email stating additional groups of QEs can now provide PE for all categories except BCCT (Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment program). MCH agencies were included in the list of QEs approved to provide presumptive eligibility for the following groups:

- Children under the age of 19
- Pregnant women (coverage of services limited to ambulatory prenatal care)
- Parents and caretaker relatives
- Individuals 19 or older and under age 65
- Former foster care children under the age of 26

Agencies who would like to complete PE applications for these additional groups are free to do so and can start completing PE applications at any time for these groups. This will allow agencies to complete PE applications for 19 and 20 year olds who qualify for the child health program but previously could not get Presumptive Medicaid from MCAH agencies due to the restrictions on different PE groups.

You will not be able to bill IDPH for completing PE applications for any group other than pregnant women and children (up to age 21). Reimbursement for presumptive eligibility is unique to our MCAH program. We have created an avenue for reimbursement – which other types of providers do not have. Therefore, we would not be able to extend our reimbursement for PE services beyond our maternal and child ages/population.

It will be beneficial for families if agencies include other adults in the family in a child or maternal PE application. It is anticipated, though not required, that your agencies will provide this service to family members of those you are already serving. It is not expected nor required for agencies to complete PE applications for the additional groups. The decision to do that would be at the discretion of each individual agency.

All PE Groups May Decline Submission for Ongoing Medicaid

A recent email from IME outlined the ability for all PE groups, not just pregnant women, to request their application not be sent for ongoing Medicaid determination. Citizenship requirements have not changed for these groups to receive PE, and non-pregnant applicants must still answer questions about citizenship and immigration status.