

MEDICAID MINUTE

from the West Virginia Association of Health Plans

Welcome to Medicaid Minute from the West Virginia Association of Health Plans. Every month you can expect our newsletter to provide you with the most up to date information about the work Managed Care Organizations are doing within the Medicaid Program and for our state. We want to serve as a resource for your Medicaid questions.

Prior Authorization Changes

During the 2023 Regular Session of the West Virginia Legislature, the Legislature passed, and the Governor signed into law, Senate Bill 267 - updating law regarding prior authorizations. The legislation made several changes to prior authorizations standards and set several mandates to which insurers must adhere.

However, among the requirements was one mandate placed upon providers - it requires all providers to submit all prior authorizations via the insurers' electronic portal beginning July 1, 2024. It is important to note that although this memo outlines the code section relating to managed care companies, the legislation outlined the same mandate in the respective sections of code relating to all types of insurance companies, including PEIA.

After consultation with the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, it has been determined that the code does in fact require insurers to only accept prior authorizations via the electronic portal effective July 1, 2024. Unless advised otherwise or the legislature changes the statutory requirement, all other forms of prior authorization submittal that are not via the electronic portal cannot be accepted.

WV Medicaid Highlights*

Total enrollment in WV Medicaid:
547,774 members
MCO Total Enrollment:
403,560 members
SSI Enrollment:
35,945 (9%)
Expansion Enrollment:
157,319 (39%)
TANF Enrollment:
186,976 (46%)
CHIP Enrollment:
23,320 (6%)

* Data Source: DHHR report 5-1-24

More Information

Provider portal web addresses for the Medicaid MCOs are:

AETNA BETTER HEALTH OF WV-
<https://apps.availity.com/web/onboarding/availity-fr-ui/#/login>

THE HEALTH PLAN
<https://myplan.healthplan.org>

UNICARE HEALTH PLAN OF WV
<https://apps.availity.com/web/onboarding/availity-fr-ui/#/login>



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