



February 2023



News & Updates

Medicaid's Continuous Coverage Requirement is Ending this Spring

On December 29, 2022, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 was signed ending the Medicaid program's continuous coverage requirement as of April 1, 2023. This means that beginning April 1, Iowa Medicaid will no longer be required to maintain members' health coverage if they are found to be ineligible after an evaluation of their eligibility status. From March of 2020 until April 1, 2023, Iowa Medicaid was required to maintain continuous health care coverage for members. During that period, if a member experienced a situation change, (such as an income increase), that would normally disqualify them from the program, Iowa Medicaid was required to maintain coverage for the person during the public health emergency (PHE). In addition to the continuous coverage unwind, Iowa Medicaid is actively onboarding a new Managed Care Organization and scheduling mailings for members who may want to choose a different MCO. It is critical that Iowa Medicaid members provide up to date contact information, watch for mail from Iowa Medicaid, and respond to requests for information. If members do not respond to renewal letters or requests for information, they could lose their Medicaid coverage. Our Medicaid team is working hard to communicate with members, providers, and stakeholders to make sure they have the most current information. Visit our website [here](#) and follow Iowa Medicaid on Facebook and Twitter.

Medicare Part D Insulin Coverage Changes

As of January 1, 2023, plans can't charge you a deductible for insulin or more than \$35 for a one-month supply of each Medicare Part D-covered insulin you take. For more information, click [here](#).



Family Caregiver

Caregiver Resources

As a caregiver, it is important to know what resources are available to you to help maintain your role and well-being. The AARP has put together a list of resources that

can support you throughout your caregiving journey. The AARP resources can be found [here](#). You can also visit the Iowa Department on Aging website at this [link](#) to connect with your local Area Agency on Aging.

Navigating Caregiver Challenges

It can be difficult to share the role of caregiving as we all can cope differently even when presented with the same caregiving circumstance. Discover ways to face these challenges by clicking [here](#).

Caregiver Appreciation

February 17th, 2023 is National Caregivers Day! The Iowa Department on Aging would like to take this time to recognize and show gratitude to all caregivers for your selfless support and endless willingness to give your own time to care for others each and every day. Thank you! You can read about the history of National Caregivers Day [here](#).



Disease Prevention/ Health Promotion

2023-2027 State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP)

As a member of the Healthy Iowans Partnership Steering Committee, we would like to share the 2023-2027 State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP). Serving as a guide for public health work throughout the state, the 2023-2027 SHIP focuses on new, innovative strategies that will be implemented over the next five years. Click [here](#) to learn more about the identified health priorities for Iowa. The Iowa Aging Network continues to support older Iowans, Iowans with disabilities age 18 and older, caregivers, and veterans as they make informed decisions and exercise self-determination and control about their independence, well-being, and health through a suite of services including nutrition education, nutrition counseling, evidence based programming and congregate and home delivered meals.



Falls Prevention

CAPABLE

CAPABLE is a program developed at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing for seniors to safely age in place. The approach teams a nurse, occupational therapist, and a home modification specialist to improve conditions of the home environment and uses the strengths of the participating older adult to improve safety and independence. For more information about CAPABLE in Iowa, go to Iowa Department on Aging website found [here](#).



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The mission of the Iowa Department on Aging is to develop a comprehensive, coordinated and cost-effective system of long-term living and community support service that helps older Iowans maintain health and independence in their homes and communities.