

What to Expect After Applying for NJ FamilyCare

June 2023



What Happens After Submitting an Application

• Eligibility Determination Process

• Enrollment in a Health Plan

Using the Benefits

Post-Eligibility Processes

Objectives

- 1. Be familiar with Presumptive Eligibility (PE)
- Understand the NJ FamilyCare eligibility determination process
- 3. Know how to enroll in a Health Plan
- 4. Use the benefits
- 5. Understand processes that take place after someone is approved for NJ FamilyCare
- 6. Understand health literacy and its importance when helping others



Module 1

Presumptive Eligibility (PE)

Presumptive Eligibility (PE)

- Temporary healthcare coverage for patients who receive services from a certified PE Provider and meet the PE program rules
- Covers same populations, has the same rules to qualify, and includes the same health services as NJ FamilyCare
- Coverage through Fee-for-Service (FFS)
 Medicaid participating providers. No Health Plan enrollment.



PE (cont'd.)

- PE applications are completed online by the certified PE Provider
- Patient can also apply for full NJ FamilyCare coverage at the same time. It's only a few extra questions.
- PE Provider gives patient copy of Confirmation Page/application and cover letter explaining next steps

PE (cont'd.)

- Application reviewed and temporary PE coverage established for eligible applicants
- Patient can use Health Benefits Identification card to access benefits. Their old card might be reactivated, or they could get a new card.
- Application also sent to NJ FamilyCare Eligibility Determining Agency



Module 2

NJ FamilyCare Eligibility Determination Process

- Eligibility Determining Agency (EDA)
- Letters from EDA
- NJ FamilyCare Benefit Plans

NJ FamilyCare Eligibility Determining Agency (EDA)

- State Vendor or local County Board of Social Services
- Process NJ FamilyCare applications using the same rules
- Eligibility decision within 45 days
- Renew their members the following year



County Board of Social Services

- Process applications for lower-income (Medicaid) families
- Transfers higher-income (CHIP) families to the State Vendor
- Offer many other programs such as food stamps (SNAP) and cash assistance

State Vendor

- Professional eligibility vendor hired by the State
- 5 regional offices
 - See <u>www.njfamilycare.org</u> for locations
- Processes applications for lower-income
 (Medicaid) and higher-income (CHIP) families
- Processes applications sent by GetCoveredNJ
- Enrolls <u>ALL</u> eligible applicants into Statecontracted Health Plans

GetCoveredNJ

- Does not determine eligibility for NJ FamilyCare
- Sends potential NJ FamilyCare applicants to State Vendor
- State Vendor determines eligibility for NJ FamilyCare
- Account transfers to and from NJ FamilyCare

NJ FamilyCare EDA Communication

- Sent to Head of Household and address listed on application
- Include Policy/Confirmation Number
- Phone number of EDA
 - Status of application
 - Eligibility
 - Changes in family situation

Types of Letters

- Application Received
- Request for Information (RFI)/Missing Information (if needed)
- Eligibility Outcome
- Enrollment Confirmation (for eligible applicants only)

RFI/Missing Information Letter

- Electronically verified:
 - Identity, including birth date and Social Security
 Number
 - U.S. Citizenship/immigration status
 - Income of every household member
- Letter sent only if unable to verify
- If no response, application will close

Eligibility Outcome Letter

- Household members who requested NJ FamilyCare coverage
- Eligibility Decision
 - Approved
 - Denied with reason
- Directions on how to appeal

Approved Household Members

- Benefit Plan assigned
- Effective Date when coverage begins
 - Plan A/ABP: first day of month they applied
 - Plan B/C/D: first day of month their Health Plan coverage starts
- Effective Date is blank
 - Plan B/C/D: Coverage cannot begin until a Health
 Plan is selected



Denied Household Members

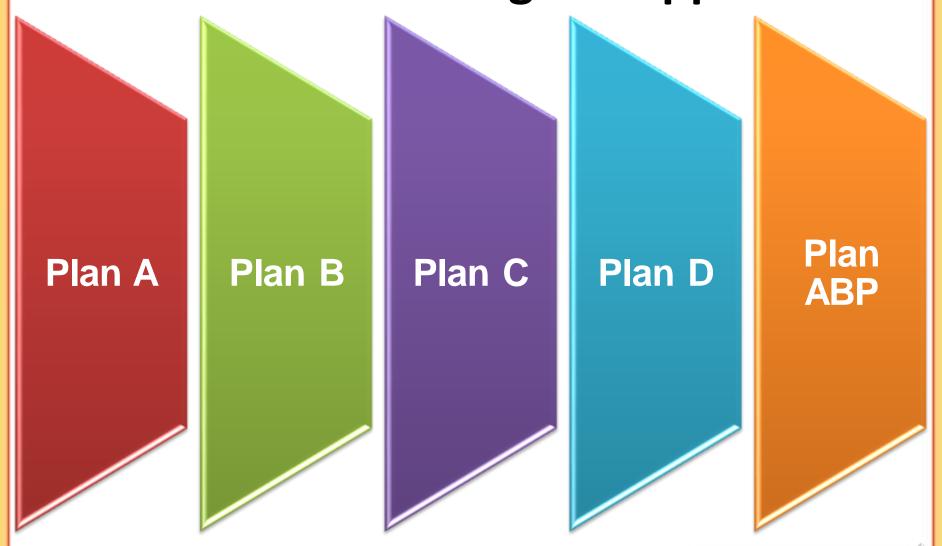
- Denial reason for each individual
 - No response to requests for additional information
 - Over income
 - Not a New Jersey resident
 - Over age
 - U.S. Citizenship/Qualified Immigrant status not verifiable
 - Other current insurance coverage
 - Etc.



Appealing a Decision

- Both Fair Hearings and Grievances are for when people disagree with their eligibility decision
- Give <u>specific reason</u> for disagreeing with the eligibility determination

Benefit Plans for Eligible Applicants



Plan A

- Adults, pregnant women, and children
- Income for adults is up to 138% FPL Income for pregnant women is up to 205% FPL Income for children is up to 147% FPL
- No premiums or copays
- Coverage under Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medicaid until enrolled in the Health Plan
- Can request up to 3 months retroactive coverage
 - If eligible during that time
 - Pays for services received from FFS Medicaid Providers only
- If they do not choose a Health Plan, one will be selected for them
- Most can have other insurance

Plan B

- Children only
- Income above 147% up to 150% FPL
- No premiums or copays
- Coverage starts when enrolled in Health Plan
- If they do not choose a Health Plan, application will close

Plan C

- Children only
- Income above 150% up to 200% FPL
- No premium
- Copays range \$5-\$10
- Coverage starts when enrolled in Health Plan
- If they do not choose a Health Plan, application will close

Plan D

- Children only
- Income above 200% up to 355% FPL
- No premium
- Copays range \$5-\$35
- Coverage starts when enrolled in Health Plan
- If they do not choose a Health Plan, application will close

Plan ABP – Alternative Benefit Package

- Adult population eligible due to the Affordable Care Act
- Income up to 138% FPL
- No premiums or copays
- Coverage under Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medicaid until enrolled in the Health Plan
- Can request up to 3 months retroactive coverage
 - If eligible during that time
 - Pays for services received from FFS Medicaid Providers only
- If they do not choose a Health Plan, one will be selected for them
- Can have other insurance except Medicare



Module 3

Enrollment in a Health Plan

- NJ FamilyCare Health Plans
- Deciding which to use
- How to select

Health Plan Enrollment

- All NJ FamilyCare members must enroll in a Health Plan
- State Vendor manages <u>ALL</u> NJ FamilyCare Health Plan enrollments
- Call 1-800-701-0710 to speak to a Health Benefits Coordinator

What Does the Health Plan Do?

- Provider network
- Member services
- Marketing and community outreach
- Utilization management
- Disease management
- Care management

- Quality assurance
- Program integrity (fraud/waste/abuse)
- Claims processing
- Complaints, grievances& appeals
- Compliance
- Information systems
- Finance



The 5 NJ FamilyCare Health Plans

















Choosing a Health Plan

- Info at www.njfamilycare.org
- All offer the same health services
- All 5 available in all NJ counties
 - WellCare not in Hunterdon County
- Choose the Health Plan their doctors accept

Selection and Changing

- Select Health Plan on NJ FamilyCare application
- If not selected on the application
 - Letter advising to choose by certain deadline
 - After deadline, Plan A or ABP will have Health Plan chosen for them. Plan B,C, or D application will close.
- Can change to a different plan for good cause

Enrollment Confirmation Letter

- Policy Number
- Member's name and birth date
- Benefit Plan
- Health Plan
- Enrollment Date
- Services covered by Health Plan vs. Fee-for-Service

NJ FamilyCare HBID and 5 Health Plan Card Samples





Amerigroup Member Services: 1-800-600-4441 24/7 BH Crisis: 1-877-842-7187

Pharmacy Member Services: 1-833-207-3115







Putting It All Together...

Benefit Plan	Coverage Start Date	Health Plan: Auto-Assigned or Chosen?	Health Plan Enrollment Date	Premium
Plan A	Month of Application/ Fee-for-Service	Chosen or Auto-assigned	First of month following eligibility determination*	No
Plan ABP	Month of Application/ Fee-for-Service	Chosen or Auto-assigned		
Plan B	Date enrolled in Health Plan	Chosen		
Plan C	Date enrolled in Health Plan	Chosen		
Plan D	Date enrolled in Health Plan	Chosen		

^{*}Eligibility determination in the later part of the month may push enrollment an additional month later.

Module 4

Using the Benefits

- What is covered
- Cost share
- Choosing a provider

Pathway to Better Health

Make your health a priority

Understand your health coverage

Know where to go for care

Find a provider

Make an appointment

Be prepared for the visit

Decide if the provider is right for you

Next steps after your appointment



What Is Covered?

- Well Visits
- Physician Care
- X-ray and Lab Tests
- Hospitalizations
- Vision and Hearing Screening
- Dental
- Mental Health/Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- Prescriptions
- And much more



Cost Shares

 Premiums are no longer charged as of July 2021

- Copay
 - Plan C \$5-\$10
 - Plan D \$5-\$35



How to Choose a Provider

- ✓ Patient-Provider Relationship
- ✓ Location
- ✓ In the Health Plan

Call Health Plan Member Services to choose or change

Module 5

After Joining NJ FamilyCare Program

- Special processes
- Status review
- Renewal
- Disenrollment

Reasonable Opportunity Period (ROP)

- Applicant's U.S. Citizen or Qualified Immigrant status cannot be verified through electronic sources
- Applicant meets all other program requirements and cooperates with NJ FamilyCare requests for information
- Applicant is enrolled in NJ FamilyCare temporarily
- Coverage will continue if successfully verified; coverage will end if not
- Applicant can only receive ROP coverage once in their lifetime



Premium Support Program (PSP)

- Applicants who are eligible for NJ FamilyCare AND have access to employer-sponsored insurance
- First receive NJ FamilyCare coverage
- PSP Unit analyzes service package and cost of employer-sponsored insurance
- If employer-sponsored insurance meets certain criteria, member seamlessly transferred and paid on regular schedule

Status Review/Changes

- Applicant or member must report any changes to the EDA
 - Income
 - Household size, including pregnancy
 - Contact information, including address
 - Head of household
- EDA will decide how to use the new information

Renewals

- NJ FamilyCare must re-evaluate all members every year
- It is important to report changes such as:
 - Income
 - Household size, including pregnancy
 - Contact information, including address

Administrative Renewals

EDA checks State databases

Information confirms eligibility

Member automatically renewed



Renewal Application

- Shorter version of application
- Include all household members and income
- Reminder letter sent before end of renewal period
- Coverage will end if renewal is not completed

Renewal Processing

- Processed like the first application
- Electronic verification of information
- RFI sent if unable to verify
- Eligibility Outcome Letter lists household members and if coverage will continue or end
- Directions on how to appeal

Reasons for Disenrollment

- No longer eligible
 - Residence
 - Age
 - Income
 - Etc.
- No response to renewal or EDA request for information
- By request
- Family will receive a Termination Letter that lists reason and date coverage will end

Reconsideration

- Applies to members whose coverage will end because of not sending in renewal or other information
- Send information within 90 days to be reconsidered
- If they qualify, coverage will backdate with no gap
- Sending information after 90 days may result in gap in coverage

Appealing Disenrollment

- Any member whose coverage will end can appeal the decision
- Give <u>specific reason</u> for disagreeing with the eligibility determination
- May also have the option to request a Continuation of Benefits until the final decision is made

Who to Call?

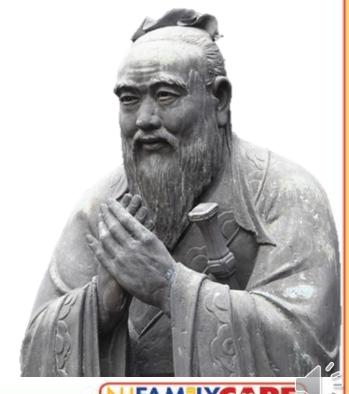
- NJ FamilyCare
 - Application processing
 - Eligibility
 - Report changes in family situation such as income
 - Renewal
 - Select or change Health Plan (State Vendor only)
- Health Plan Member Services
 - Find a new provider
 - Switch to a different provider
- Provider
 - Health needs



Module 6

Health Literacy and **Cultural Competence** "When it is obvious that the goals cannot be reached, don't adjust the goals, adjust the action steps."

-- Confucius





CLAS

In 1999, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Minority Health first proposed national standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS).

Principal Standard:

 Provide effective, equitable, understandable, and respectful quality care and services that are responsive to diverse cultural health beliefs and practices, preferred languages, health literacy, and other communication needs

https://thinkculturalhealth.hhs.gov/clas



Definition of Health Literacy

Health Literacy health lit-er-a-cy

"The ability to get, understand, and use basic health information and services to make good health decisions"

-- www.hhs.gov



Use Plain Language

Simple words your audience understands the first time

- Choose words carefully
- Organize information
- Make information easy to find

Health Literacy

- The capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information
- Affects how people use healthcare



Why Is Health Literacy Important?

Only 12 percent of adults have proficient health literacy.



Consumers with Low Health Literacy

A consumer may say things like: A consumer may be things like:

- I forgot my glasses
- My eyes are tired
- I'll take this home for my family to read

- Arrivelate to meetings
 - Return forms that are only partially filled out
- Call or visit you several times to clarify things

Language Barriers

"If communication problems occur during a conversation about something like high blood pressure, the consequences could be severe."



-- Joel Cantor, Sc.D.
Director, Center for State Health Policy
Distinguished Professor
Department of Public Policy

Who Is Responsible for Improving Health Literacy?

- Healthcare Professionals
- Adult Educators
- Community Assistors



Improving Health Literacy

- Identify the intended users for health information and services
- Gauge the appropriateness of the content
- Make information easy to use
- Evaluate user's understanding before, during, and after

Cultural Competence

"Cultural competence is the ability of health organizations and practitioners to recognize the cultural beliefs, values, attitudes, traditions, language preferences, and health practices of diverse populations, and to apply that knowledge to produce a positive health outcome."

-- Healthcare.gov



How Can You Help?

REPEAT VITAL INFORMATION

USE SIMPLE WORDS

AVOID ACRONYMS

USE SIMPLE SENTENCES

USE AN ACTIVE VOICE

AVOID TECHNICAL LANGUAGE

USE FAMILIAR WORDS

EXPLAIN DIFFICULT TERMS

GIVE INFORMATION IN SMALL CHUNKS

USE A FRIENDLY TONE CONSIDER THE CUSTOMER



Roadmap to Better Health



