



To: Hospitals

From: Molly K. Marra, Director 
Medicaid Provider Services Administration

Subject: COVID-19 Medicaid Provider Enrollment Options for Individual Practitioners

Date: April 23, 2020

On March 5, 2020, Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., declared a state of emergency due to disease (“COVID-19”) caused by the novel coronavirus. Subsequent to the state of emergency declaration, on March 16, 2020, Governor Hogan issued Executive Order, “Relating to Various Health Care Matters”, to permit a health care practitioner to engage in activities that are not authorized by his/her license at a health care facility in Maryland if: (a) doing so is necessary to allow the health care facility to meet required staffing ratios or otherwise ensure the continued and safe delivery of health care services; and (b) qualified supervisory personnel at the health care facility reasonably conclude that the health care practitioner can competently engage in such activities and reasonably supervise the health care practitioner while he/she is engaged in such activities.

In response, Maryland hospitals are preparing to address workforce needs by reallocating current provider networks, as well as hiring new practitioners to staff emergency rooms, alternative care sites, and other temporary clinical areas. After conducting outreach with several area hospitals to determine the need for expedited provider enrollment to accommodate speedy mobilization, MDH has established two options for expedited Maryland Medicaid enrollment for individual practitioners. For both options, Maryland Medicaid will honor retroactive enrollment effective as of the start of the state of emergency on March 5, 2020.

1. **Simplified enrollment through eMedicaid and temporary enrollment is available** for new, individual (solo or rendering) providers, including out-of-state providers, who wish to enroll as a temporary Maryland Medicaid provider during the COVID-19 state of emergency. This option is available for providers whose NPIs are unknown to Maryland Medicaid. Previously enrolled providers must enroll via ePREP (option 2).
 - Go to [eMedicaid](https://encrypt.emdhealthchoice.org/emedicaid/) [https://encrypt.emdhealthchoice.org/emedicaid/] and use the link next to Step 1 on the left side of the page.
 - Submit simplified application, including provider agreement with attestation to temporary status. If applicable, request a retroactive enrollment date no earlier than the start of the state of emergency, March 5, 2020.
 - MDH will work applications daily and email enrollment approval letters to approved providers with unique Medicaid IDs and instructions for billing.
 - Temporarily enrolled providers will be disenrolled for dates of service when the state of emergency concludes.

- For instructions, please find the [eMedicaid User Guide for New Practitioners During COVID-19](#) on the [Medicaid COVID-19 Provider Updates page](#).
2. **Expedited approval through ePREP is available** for new and previously active providers enrolling for the state of emergency and who wish to remain enrolled as Medicaid providers subsequent to the state of emergency.
- Go to eprep.health.maryland.gov and sign up for a user profile if you don't already have one.
 - Submit a new enrollment application and email mdh.providerenrollment@maryland.gov with the subject line "Expedited COVID-19 ePREP enrollment [Provider Name]" to request expedited enrollment and backdate to the state of emergency start date.
 - Providers that typically require a site visit and/or fingerprint-based criminal background check (FCBC) prior to enrollment are exempt from this requirement during the state of emergency. These requirements will occur post-enrollment, following the end of the state of emergency.
 - For a complete list of ePREP resources, please visit health.maryland.gov/ePREP.

If you have any questions, please email mdh.providerenrollment@maryland.gov.

Maryland Medicaid understands the tremendous challenges the COVID-19 outbreak presents to its provider network, particularly its hospitals, and sincerely thanks you for your continued partnership, resourcefulness, and frontline efforts to keep Marylanders safe and healthy during this time.