

MPCR20 - Attachment B:

Managed Care Provider Enrollment Disclosure Background

Beginning January 1, 2018, federal law requires that all managed care network providers must enroll in the Medi-Cal Program if they wish to provide services to Medi-Cal managed care beneficiaries. Managed care providers have two options for enrolling with the Medi-Cal Program. Providers may enroll through (1) DHCS; or (2) an MCP. If a provider enrolls through DHCS, the provider is eligible to provide services to Medi-Cal FFS beneficiaries and contract with MCPs. If the provider enrolls through an MCP, the provider may only provide services to Medi-Cal managed care beneficiaries and may not provide services to Medi-Cal FFS beneficiaries.

Generally, federal and state laws and regulations that apply to fee-for-service (FFS) providers will also apply to the enrollment process for managed care providers.

Regardless of the enrollment option a provider chooses, the provider is required to enter into two separate agreements - the "Plan Provider Agreement" and the "DHCS Provider Enrollment Agreement." The Plan Provider Agreement is the contract between an MCP and a provider defining their contractual relationship. The DHCS Provider Enrollment Agreement is the agreement between DHCS and the provider and is required for all providers enrolled in the Medi-Cal program.

Enrollment Options

A. Enrollment through an MCP. The following provides an overview of the MCP enrollment process:

- The provider will submit a provider enrollment application to the MCP using a process developed by the MCP.
- As part of the application process, the provider will be required to agree that DHCS and the MCP may share information relating to a provider's application and eligibility, including but not limited to issues related to program integrity.
- The MCP will be responsible for gathering all necessary documents and information associated with the MCP application.
- The provider should direct any questions it has regarding its MCP application to the MCP.
- If the provider's application requires fingerprinting, criminal background checks, and/or the denial or termination of enrollment, these functions will be performed by DHCS and the results shared with the MCP.
- While the MCP enrollment process will be substantially similar to the DHCS enrollment process, timelines relating to the processing of the enrollment application may differ. In addition, MCPs will not have the ability to grant provisional provider status nor to authorize FFS reimbursement.
- Providers will not have the right to appeal an MCP's decision to cease the enrollment process.
- The MCP will complete the enrollment process within 120 days of the provider's submission of its application. During this time, the provider may participate in the MCP's network for up to 120 days, pending approval from the MCP.
- Once the enrolling MCP places a provider on the Enrolled Provider List, the provider is eligible to contract with all MCPs. However, an MCP is not required to contract with an enrolled provider.
- Only DHCS is authorized to deny or terminate a provider's enrollment in the Medi-Cal program.
- Accordingly, if the MCP receives any information that impacts the provider's enrollment, the MCP will suspend processing the provider's enrollment application and refer the provider to DHCS' FFS Provider Enrollment Division (PED) for enrollment where the application process will start over again.
- In order for the provider to participate in the Medi-Cal FFS program, the provider must first enroll through DHCS.

B. Enrollment through DHCS.

- The provider will use DHCS' standardized application form(s) when applying for participation in the Medi-Cal program. (See <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/ApplicationPackagesAlphabeticalbyProviderType.aspx>)
- Federal and state laws and regulations that apply to FFS providers will apply to the enrollment process for managed care providers.
- Upon successful enrollment through DHCS, the provider will be eligible to contract with MCPs and provide services to FFS beneficiaries.

There may be other important aspects of the enrollment process that are not set forth in this information bulletin. Please check the DHCS website for provider enrollment updates. Providers should consult with their own legal counsel before determining which enrollment process best suit its needs and objectives.