



What do Governor Bevin's proposed Medicaid changes mean for you?

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NO AUTOMATIC RENEWAL

Every year, you must go through all the steps to re-apply for Medicaid and pick a health plan. This will be more time consuming than automatic renewal and could result in gaps in coverage.

EMPLOYER COVERAGE

If you work for an employer for at least one year and your employer offers health insurance, you must enroll in that plan. You will also be encouraged to enroll your children in the same plan. Medicaid would pay your out-of-pocket costs and provide "wrap-around" benefits if your employer plan does not provide every benefit offered by Medicaid. However, if your employer's plan offers fewer in-network providers or does not cover the same prescription drugs, these may not be covered by the state.

"MY REWARDS" ACCOUNT

You can earn rewards for taking health classes, volunteering, job training and other activities. Reward dollars can be used to "buy" benefits like dental and vision. Money could also be removed from your account as a penalty for using the emergency room when it is not an emergency or for missing too many medical appointments.

PENALTIES FOR ER OR MISSED APPOINTMENTS

Your "My Rewards" account could be charged \$20 - \$75 for "inappropriate" or non-emergency use of the ER. "Inappropriate" use has not been clearly defined. You could get a similar penalty for missing too many appointments without canceling ahead of time or without good cause.

DEDUCTIBLE ACCOUNT

Medicaid will put \$1000 into an account to cover the cost of your deductible. You will be required to manage this account. At the end of your benefit period, half of any unspent funds will be transferred to your "My Rewards" account.

NO RETROACTIVE ELIGIBILITY

Right now, Kentucky Medicaid will cover medical expenses for 90 days before you are enrolled, if you were already eligible. This is helpful for people who experience enrollment delays, get accidentally dis-enrolled, or have a gap in coverage. Under the proposed plan, coverage will only begin after you make your first premium payment and are fully enrolled. Medicaid will not pay for medical bills you had before you are enrolled.

PREMIUMS

You will be charged monthly premiums based on your income, ranging from \$1 - \$15 per month for the first 2 years. If you make more than 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (about \$12,060 for an individual or \$24,600 for a family of 4), your premium will begin increasing after 2 years and will reach \$37.50 after 4 years.

CO-PAYS

If you cannot pay your premium and you make less than 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (about \$12,060 for an individual or \$24,600 for a family of 4), you will be charged co-pays. Co-pays range from \$3 - \$50 and could add up to a lot more than your monthly premium.

6 MONTH LOCK-OUT PERIOD

"Able-bodied" adults making more than 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (about \$12,060 for an individual or \$24,600 for a family of 4) could lose coverage for up to 6 months. This could happen if you are unable to pay your premium within 60 days; don't re-enroll on time; or don't report a change in income or employment status within 10-days. To regain coverage before the end of the 6-month lock-out period, you would be required to pay any overdue premiums, the current month's premium and participate in a health literacy or financial literacy class.

REDUCED BENEFITS

Currently, Kentucky Medicaid provides the same benefits to all members. Under this plan Medicaid will not pay for dental, vision, non-emergency transportation, hearing exams, or hearing aids for "able-bodied" adults without dependents.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

You will be required to work, volunteer or participate in job training for at least 20 hours a week. Hours spent as a student, primary caregiver, or meeting SNAP (food stamp) work requirements should count toward these requirements. If you do not work or volunteer, you could lose your coverage.

Definitions



1115 MEDICAID WAIVER

States can apply for a "waiver" with the federal government in order to re-design their Medicaid programs. Waivers should lead to increased access, better health, and improved health care delivery. The Bevin Administration has submitted an 1115 Medicaid Waiver proposal called Kentucky HEALTH, which includes many changes to the Medicaid program. The federal government is reviewing Kentucky's waiver now. The proposed changes cannot be made unless it is approved.

MEDICALLY FRAIL

Kentucky Medicaid will consider individuals with certain disabling conditions to be "medically frail". This will automatically include Individuals with SSDI, receiving hospice care, or diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. Individuals could also be determined to be "medically frail" if they have: serious mental illness, chronic substance use disorder, complex medical condition, or another physical, intellectual, or developmental disability that significantly impairs a person's ability to perform one or more activities of daily living.

PREMIUMS

A fixed amount of money people have to pay each month to cover part of the cost of their health insurance.

CO-PAY

An amount of money people pay for each health service, office visit, or prescription medication. The amount differs depending on the services received.

DEDUCTIBLE

The amount people pay for covered health care services before their insurance plan starts to pay. With a \$1,000 annual deductible, for example, the person pays the first \$1,000 of covered services each year, and the insurance company pays for any expenses beyond \$1,000.

LOCK-OUT PERIOD

A penalty that results in an individual losing Medicaid coverage for a certain amount of time, even if they are eligible based on income. This might happen if a person cannot pay the required monthly premiums and, as a result, gets penalized with a 6-month lockout period from coverage.



Federal Poverty Level	Your Household Income (2017)				Household Monthly Premium
	Individuals		Family of 4		
	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	
< 25%	\$3,015	\$251	\$6,150	\$512	\$1
25 - 50%	\$6,030	\$502	\$12,300	\$1,025	\$4
51 - 100%	\$12,060	\$1,005	\$24,600	\$2,050	\$8
101 - 138%	\$16,642	\$1,386	\$33,948	\$2,829	\$15 - \$37.50