



# Washington Medicaid Law

Public Health Emergency (PHE) unwind  
Apple Health Expansion  
Medicaid Transformation 1115 waiver

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NoHLA CLE

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Medicaid Programs Division

# Outline

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1. Public Health Emergency (PHE) unwind
2. Apple Health Expansion
3. Medicaid Transformation 1115 waiver

# 1. PHE Unwind

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- ▶ Public Health Emergency (PHE)
- ▶ Outreach strategy
- ▶ Apple Health redeterminations
  - ▶ Customer experience
  - ▶ Caseload impacts



# PHE unwind

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- ▶ Due to the public health emergency (PHE) under Section 319 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, most clients have remained covered on Apple Health (Medicaid) since March of 2020.
- ▶ Continuous eligibility requirement ended March 31, 2023 through mandates set out by Congress through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022; Health Care Authority (HCA) started normal operations as of April 1, 2023.
- ▶ Expected the highest numbers of disenrollments May through July, extending 12 months to April 2024.
- ▶ Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) phases down through December 2023.
- ▶ Goal to ensure customers are provided the opportunity for continued coverage through Apple Health, a marketplace plan, Medicare, or employer sponsored insurance.



# Outreach campaign

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## Get Ready




New mailbox?  
Make sure you  
update your  
Apple Health  
contact info.

Washington  
Apple Health

Make sure your contact information is up to date!  
Visit [wahealthplanfinder.org](http://wahealthplanfinder.org)

## Renew

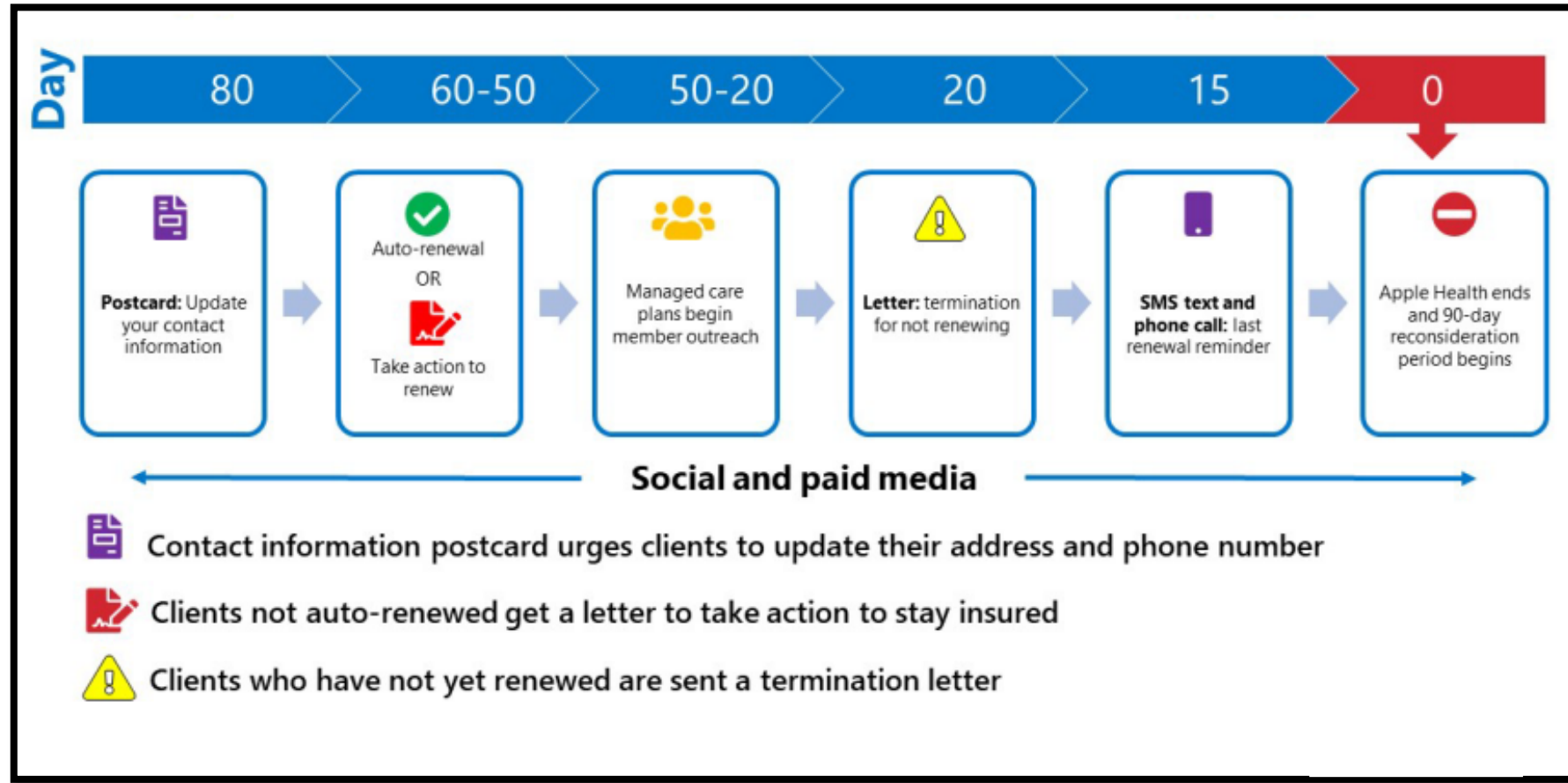


Complete your  
Apple Health  
eligibility review  
from the comfort  
of home.

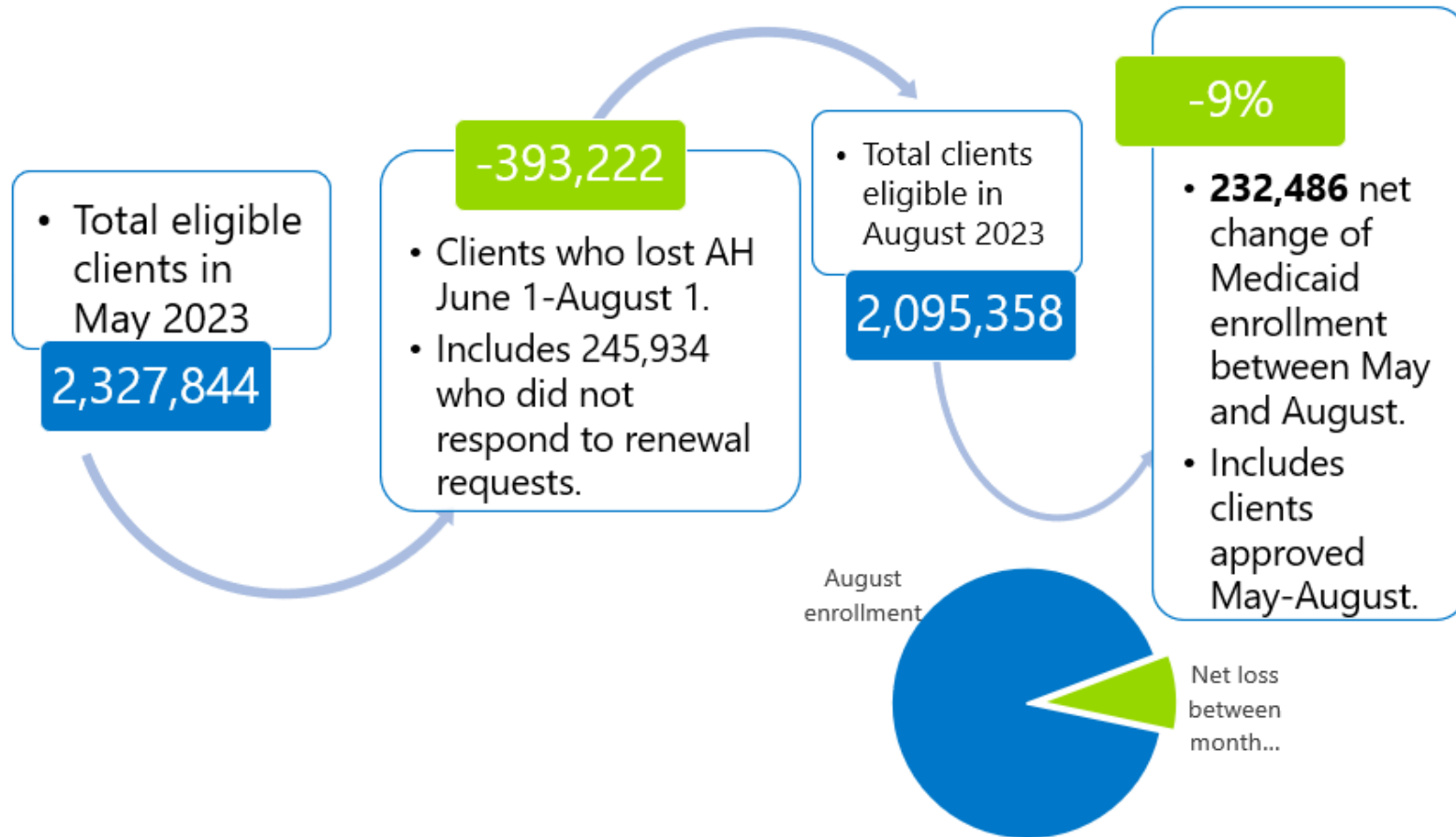
Washington  
Apple Health

Renew your coverage at [washingtonconnection.org](http://washingtonconnection.org)

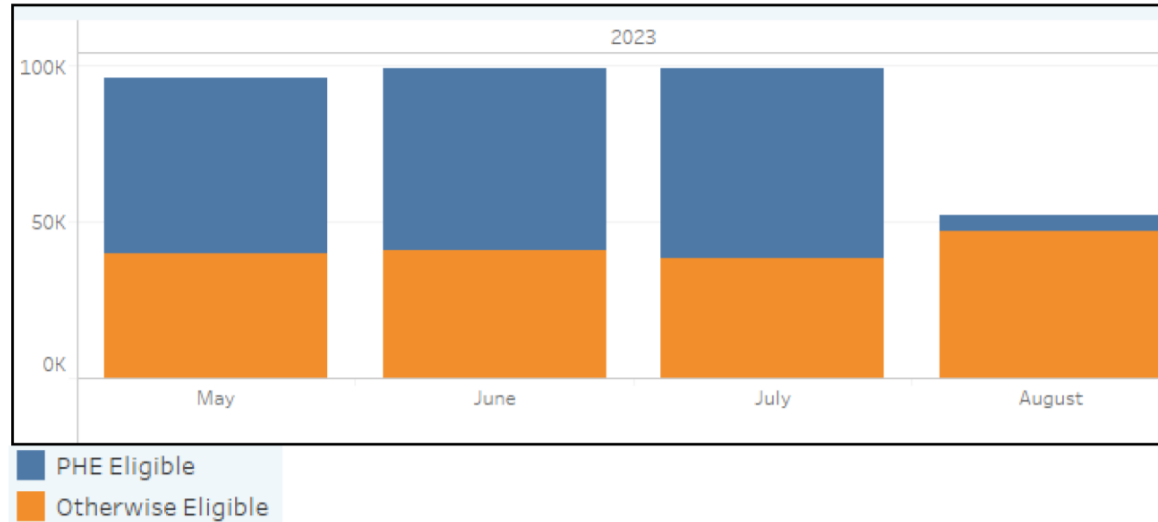
# Apple Health renewal campaign



# Loss of coverage – first 4 months



# Operations normalizing



All clients regardless of PHE status (MAGI and Classic)

**Number of terminations for all reasons**

Data as of 09/06/2023.

Termination date	MAGI clients terminated	Classic clients terminated	Total terminated
05/31/2023	107,647	8,316	115,963
06/30/2023	107,423	6,757	114,180
07/31/2023	102,123	9,058	111,181
08/31/2023	47,962	3,936	51,898



# Customer experience - transitions to other coverage

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- ▶ Clients terminated for not renewing can reapply for Apple Health any time.
  - ▶ 90-day reconsideration period for MAGI.
  - ▶ 30-day reconsideration period for Classic.
  - ▶ Can request up to 3 months retroactive approval for unpaid medical bills.
- ▶ Loss of Apple Health is a qualifying life event that allows enrollment into other coverage through Washington Healthplanfinder, Medicare, or employer-sponsored insurance.
  - ▶ Committed to working with clients to renew or transition coverage as smoothly as possible.
- ▶ Continuous eligibility for kids ages 0-6.

# Ongoing redeterminations

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- ▶ Continue to engage in outreach efforts with clients and the community.
- ▶ The high volume of terminations was anticipated within the first 3 months and aligns with other states.
  - ▶ The volume of monthly redeterminations decreased beginning in August.
- ▶ PHE unwind continues to be a top priority.
  - ▶ Submitted 2024 Decision Package to fund additional agency supports

# Resources

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- ▶ Information on HCA's response to the PHE
  - ▶ [hca.wa.gov/phe](https://hca.wa.gov/phe)
    - ▶ Guide to Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) Post-PHE
    - ▶ Washington State renewal distribution plan
  - ▶ [Continuous enrollment unwind data\\*](#)
    - ▶ Understanding continuous enrollment unwind data



\***Source:** [hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/apple-health-phe-unwind-enrollment-data.pdf](https://hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/apple-health-phe-unwind-enrollment-data.pdf)

## 2. Apple Health Expansion

Current immigrant health coverage

Apple Health Expansion coverage

- Eligibility
- Covered services
- Enrollment options

Outreach & community engagement

Privacy

# Health care coverage for people otherwise not qualified for Apple Health

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- ▶ There are several Apple Health (Medicaid) programs that currently serve individuals who do not qualify for federally subsidized Medicaid full scope coverage because of their immigration status.
  - ▶ Medical Care Services (MCS)
  - ▶ Alien Emergency Medical (AEM)
  - ▶ Apple Health for Pregnant Individuals
  - ▶ After Pregnancy Care (APC)
  - ▶ Apple Health for Kids

# Apple Health Expansion (AHE)

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- ▶ Washington State's Legislature continues to expand coverage for the uninsured:
  - ▶ The Health Care Authority (HCA) was directed in 2022, through [SB 5693](#) (the supplemental budget), to begin developing a program that would provide Medicaid equivalent health care coverage to uninsured adults with income up to 138% of the federal poverty level who are ineligible for other federal assistance.
  - ▶ In 2023, through [SB 5187](#) (the biennial budget), the Legislature provided funding to operationalize this program and directed HCA to implement Apple Health Expansion (AHE) beginning July 1, 2024.
    - ▶ Program funding is limited and will not likely cover the entire eligible population.



# Program policies

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- ▶ Where possible HCA will use the same eligibility, enrollment, redetermination and renewals, and appeals procedures as Apple Health.
- ▶ Assumption is that the agency will draw federal match wherever possible.
- ▶ Will mirror federal funded Apple Health programs to the extent possible.
- ▶ AHE will be a Managed Care program.

# Managed care and fee-for-service

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## ▶ Managed care

- ▶ Delivery system organized to manage cost, utilization, and quality.
- ▶ Contracted arrangements between HCA and managed care organizations (MCOs) that accept a set per member, per month (capitation) payment

## ▶ Coverage without a managed care plan (fee-for-service)

- ▶ HCA pays providers directly for each service they provide
- ▶ Does not lend itself to care coordination and disease management

# Eligibility

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- ▶ Adults over age 19 with countable income up to 138% of the federal poverty level who:
  - ▶ Do not qualify for federally funded Medicaid programs, and
  - ▶ Are not eligible for other federally funded medical assistance programs or federal advanced premium tax credits through the individual market.



# Eligibility

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- ▶ The implementation of Apple Health Expansion will provide a full scope coverage option. Individuals enrolled in Medical Care Services, Apple Health for Pregnant Individuals, After Pregnancy Coverage, and Apple Health for Kids will remain in those full scope programs.
  - ▶ As individuals age out of pregnancy coverage or the Apple Health for Kids program, their eligibility is redetermined and if they are eligible for another program they are enrolled.
  - ▶ This process applies to Apple Health Expansion if they meet eligibility requirements and there is space available.

# Eligibility

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- ▶ Qualified Health Plan Expansion
  - ▶ Individuals can enroll during open enrollment (November 2023)
  - ▶ Coverage begins January 2024
- ▶ Individuals who purchase a plan on the Exchange who are eligible for Apple Health Expansion on July 1 will be transitioned to the new program.
  - ▶ HCA and Health Benefit Exchange (HBE) will work together on outreach to these individuals.
  - ▶ Mirrors process for someone with a change of income or eligibility enrolled in a Qualified Health Plan (QHP) today, who becomes eligible for Medicaid.

# Covered services

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- ▶ The intent is to mirror the federally funded Medicaid program to the extent possible.
  - ▶ Integrated Care (physical and behavioral health) and dental services will be covered.
  - ▶ Transportation and interpreter services will be available.
  - ▶ The Pharmacy benefit will be substantially equivalent but is based on the coverage in Public Employee Benefits Board.
    - ▶ Preferred drugs on the Apple Health Expansion Preferred Drug List may be different than Apple Health Integrated Managed Care.
    - ▶ AHE does not qualify for federal drug rebates or existing Apple Health supplemental rebates.



# Enrollment options: age 19-64

## ▶ For

- ▶ Adults ages 19 to 64
- ▶ Children
- ▶ Parents or caretakers with children
- ▶ Pregnant or applying for someone who is pregnant

## ▶ Online at Washington Healthplanfinder

## ▶ WAPlanfinder mobile app

## ▶ Phone: 1-855-923-4633

## ▶ Paper application

## ▶ In person through navigator

The screenshot shows the Washington Healthplanfinder website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'En Español', and a search bar containing 'E.g. How do I renew my cover'. Below this is the 'washington healthplanfinder' logo with the tagline 'click, compare, covered.' and a 'Sign In' button. A secondary navigation bar includes 'GET COVERAGE', 'CURRENT CUSTOMERS', and 'HELP CENTER'. A dark banner below the navigation bar reads 'Need to make a change? Find out if you qualify for special enrollment.' The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column, titled 'What would you like to do today?', contains a list of actions: 'Sign In to Your Account', 'Report Changes', 'Free or Low-Cost Apple Health', 'Renew Your Coverage', 'Apply Now', 'Browse and Compare Plans', 'Frequently Asked Questions', and 'Make a Payment'. The right column, titled 'Find Health Coverage Now', features a green button 'See if you can enroll' and a section 'Care for How You're Living' with a 'Get Virtual Help' button. At the bottom, there are three columns of links: 'Get Financial Help' (Free or low-cost coverage through Washington Apple Health), 'Update Your Information' (Report a change in income, address and other details), and 'Submit Documents' (Submit from your account or use the mobile app).

# Enrollment options: age 65+

- ▶ For
  - ▶ Adults age 65 or older
  - ▶ Individuals who are blind or disabled
  - ▶ Those who need long-term services and supports
- ▶ Online at Washington Connection
- ▶ Phone: 1-877-501-2233
- ▶ Paper application
- ▶ In person at DSHS Community Services Office (for aged, blind or disabled coverage)
- ▶ In person at DSHS Home and Community Services Office (for long-term services and supports coverage)

The screenshot shows the Washington Connection website. At the top, there is a green header with the text "WASHINGTON CONNECTION" and "your link to services" next to a map of Washington. To the right is the state seal. Below the header is a navigation bar with "Login", "Create Account", and "About This Site" buttons. A language selector shows "English | Español". The main content area starts with a "Welcome" message and a "Navigation Tutorial" link. Below this, there are two paragraphs of text: one about "Washington Connection" services and another about "Washington Healthplanfinder" services. Three orange buttons are displayed: "See If I Qualify", "Apply Now", and "Find Services". At the bottom, there is a dropdown menu titled "I would like to ..." with options: "See if I qualify", "Apply Now", "Renew my benefits", "Report a change", "Complete my mid-certification review", and "Find services". To the right of the dropdown is a photo of a man and a child on a beach.

# Limited enrollment due to budget

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- ▶ HCA anticipates the number of individuals eligible for and interested in enrolling into AHE will exceed the limited capacity of the program.
  - ▶ The estimated capacity of the program will be determined November 2023.
  - ▶ Outreach efforts will include information about the program's limited capacity.
  - ▶ HCA intends to ensure that the program's capacity is maximized.

# Outreach & community engagement

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## ▶ Outreach

- ▶ Partnering with HBE and the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS).
- ▶ The first phase leading up to open enrollment is being led by HBE.
- ▶ After open enrollment, outreach activities supporting Apple Health Expansion will begin.

## ▶ Engagement: Community Advocate Workgroup

- ▶ HCA, DSHS, and HBE
  - Bi-monthly meetings.
  - Feedback and input on policy and operational development for both new programs.

# Outreach & community engagement

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- ▶ Temporary Community Engagement Advisory Committee
  - ▶ Advocate workgroup is transitioning into the Temporary Community Engagement Advisory Committee (CEAC).
  - ▶ Work begins October 2023.
- ▶ Coming Soon: Community Accountability Committee
  - ▶ The CEAC will help draft a charter for the Community Accountability Committee.
  - ▶ Launches post-implementation.

# Privacy

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- ▶ The Health Care Authority is required under law and HIPAA to maintain the privacy of its clients' information.
- ▶ There are a limited number of reasons where HCA may use and disclose information, including determining eligibility for Apple Health coverage.
- ▶ A full list of these disclosures is listed in our privacy policies.



# Privacy

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- ▶ The privacy policies listed below are provided to clients on a yearly basis. We do not share information with any immigration agency.
  
- ▶ For more information, visit:
  - ▶ HCA website: [HCA notice of privacy practice](#)
  - ▶ [Washington State Health Care Authority Notice of Privacy Practices](#)
  - ▶ [Health Care Coverage Rights and Responsibilities](#)

# 3. Medicaid Transformation Project (MTP) 2.0

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Overview of Waiver pursuant to  
Section 1115 of the Social Security Act

# Overview of MTP 2.0 Requests and Approvals

## Aims

- ▶ Ensure equitable access to whole person care, empowering people to achieve their optimal health and wellbeing in the setting of their choice.
- ▶ Build healthier, equitable communities, with communities.
- ▶ Pay for integrated health and equitable, value-based care.

## Goals

- ▶ Expand coverage and access to care, ensuring people can get the care they need.
- ▶ Advance whole-person primary, preventive, and home- and community-based care.
- ▶ Accelerate care delivery and payment innovation focused on health-related social needs.

## Programs

- ▶ Justice-involved reentry initiative (new)
- ▶ Continuous Apple Health enrollment (new)
- ▶ Post-partum coverage expansion (new)
- ▶ SUD and MH IMD Services (continuing)
- ▶ MAC and TSOA (continuing)
- ▶ LTSS innovations and efficiencies (new)
- ▶ Clinical integration advancements (pending)
- ▶ Services to address health-related social needs (new)
- ▶ Foundational Community Supports (continuing)
- ▶ Health equity investments (pending)

# Health-Related Social Need (HRSN) Services

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- ▶ Authorizes payment to support a menu of new services:
  - ▶ Nutrition supports
  - ▶ Recuperative care and short-term post hospitalization housing
  - ▶ Housing transition navigation services
  - ▶ Rent/temporary housing for up to six months
  - ▶ Stabilization centers
  - ▶ Day habilitation programs
  - ▶ Caregiver respite services
  - ▶ Environmental accessibility and remediation adaptations
  - ▶ Case management: Community Hubs and Native Hub to pay for community-based workforce
  - ▶ Community transition services: Personal care and homemaker services, and transportation services

# Foundational Community Supports

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## ▶ Foundational Community Supports

- ▶ Supportive housing and supported employment services for Apple Health beneficiaries who have a qualifying social risk factor and a needs-based factor
- ▶ Enhancements under MTP 2.0
  - Expanded eligibility from 18 and older to 16 and older
  - Transition costs/housing deposits
  - Rent/temporary housing for up to six months

# A Closer Look: Justice-involved pre- and post- release services

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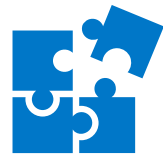
# Legislation related to reentry

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- ▶ House Bill 2803 (2012): Providers of hospital services that are licensed with the DOH must contract with the DOC for services, as a condition of licensure, at Medicaid rates, using P1 billing system of record.
- ▶ House Bill 6430 (2016): Required continuity of care during periods of incarceration; Suspend, rather than terminate, Medicaid eligibility; Expanded eligibility to community-based Work Release facilities; Began interface with Jail Booking Reporting System (JBRS); A specific category of recipient was created to identify incarcerated individuals in jail; Inpatient services paid for by Medicaid; Reconnect with same Managed Care Organization (MCO); Require MCOs to coordinate care upon release from jail or prison
- ▶ Federal [SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act](#) (the “SUPPORT Act”) (2018) regarding Opioid epidemic response; sets out a number of Medicaid related provisions, including directing CMS to consider ways to pay for MAT and MOUD treatment while people are in carceral settings
- ▶ HB 1348 (2022) directed jail related Medicaid waiver; consider unsuspending for 29 days to improve transitions
- ▶ SB 5304 (2022) directed prison Medicaid waiver and established statutory reentry advisory committee - Reentry Advisory Workgroup (RAW); and 5157 funded development of reentry related health care metrics for Medicaid
- ▶ Legislation (2022 budget bill) to use EHR as a service for Dept. of Corrections through HCA Medicaid funding and purchasing – begin process for local jails as well
- ▶ Federal legislation: Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 requires Medicaid coverage during Juvenile detention (up to age 21), implementation begins January 2025

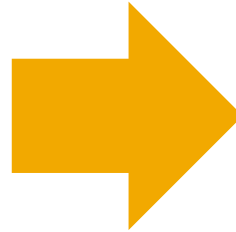
# Reentry Services 1115 Waiver Initiative Vision

In June 2023, HCA received Section 1115 demonstration approval for the Reentry Services Initiative, which seeks to deliver a targeted set of services to adults and youth in state prisons, jails and youth correctional facilities in the 90 days prior to their release.



## Current State

- Fragmented and inconsistent availability of services prior to release
- Limited re-entry planning and connections to post-release services
- Minimal continuity of care and medication adherence
- Poor health outcomes and high rates of recidivism, ED utilization and deaths
- Limited use of federal funding



## Future State: Reentry Services Initiative

- Delivery of targeted services **90 days prior to release** to stabilize and treat common conditions
- Re-entry planning with connections and warm handoffs to post-release services
- Greater continuity of care through care coordination and access to medication pre- and post-release
- Improved health outcomes and reduced rates of recidivism, ED utilization, overdoses and death



# Eligible Population and Scope of Services

**Eligible Population:** All Medicaid-eligible individuals within 90 days of release from a state prison, jail, or youth correctional facility (pretrial or post-conviction).

## Approved Scope of Services

### **Mandatory:**

Case management/care coordination

Medication-assisted Treatment (MAT) pre-release

For post-release: 30-day supply of medications and durable medical equipment

### **Secondary:**

Medications during the pre-release period

Lab and radiology

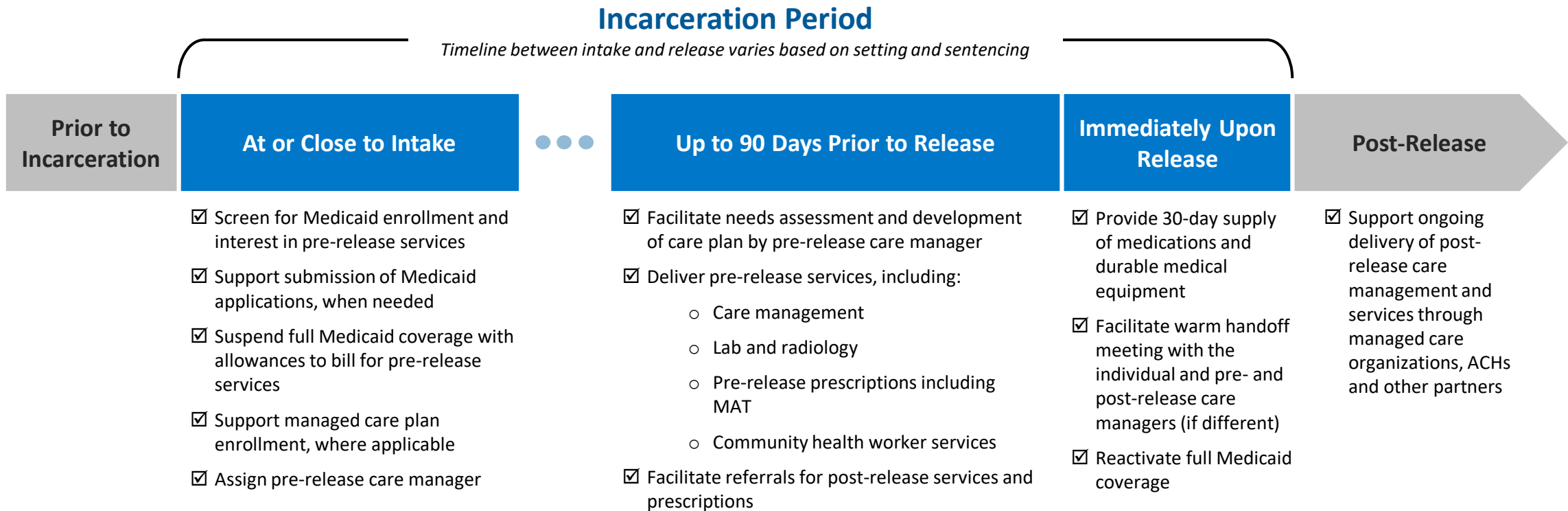
Services by community health workers

Physical and behavioral clinical consultations (as needed)

Coverage for these benefits will allow care coordination staff to:

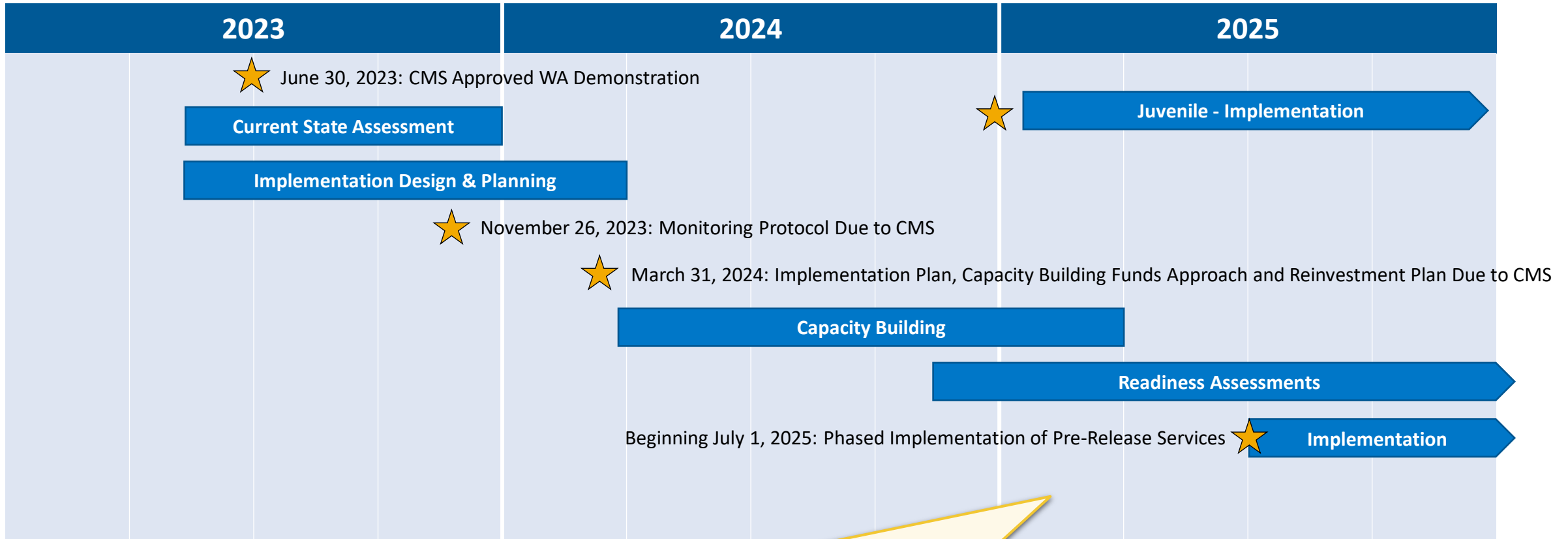
- **assess health care needs,**
- **develop re-entry care plans,**
- **work with facility staff to ensure provision of medications for opioid use disorder (OUD) and alcohol use disorder (AUD) treatment,**
- **facilitate referrals and transportation to treatment following re-entry,**
- **arrange for medications/durable medical equipment (DME) upon release, and**
- **connect individuals to supports to address health-related social needs.**

# Snapshot of Preliminary Reentry Initiative Approach



*HCA recognizes that correctional settings pose unique challenges to delivering the full suite of pre-release services for all individuals (e.g., short stays, unpredictable release dates) and will work with facilities to develop strategies to accommodate these issues.*

# Preliminary Implementation Timeline



- Early adopter facilities that demonstrate readiness may implement pre-release services as early as July 1, 2025.
- Facilities that require more time to demonstrate readiness will go-live in several cohorts after the initial go-live date with the timing for specific cohorts to be defined by HCA.

# Examples of Policy Design and Implementation Planning Focus

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- ▶ Medicaid Enrollment and Suspension Processes
  - ▶ Definitions of Pre-Release Services and Levels
  - ▶ Pre-Release and Reentry Care Management Expectations
  - ▶ Pre-Release Service Delivery Model
  - ▶ Service Delivery Model for Short Term Stays
  - ▶ Medicaid Provider Registration and Billing
  - ▶ Information Technology and Data Sharing
  - ▶ Implementation Readiness Assessment
- ...and more

# Planning and Implementation Funds

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- ▶ To support the following activities:
  - ▶ Technology and IT Services
  - ▶ Hiring of Staff and Training
  - ▶ Adoption of certified EHR technology
  - ▶ Purchase of Billing Systems
  - ▶ Development of Protocols and Procedures
  - ▶ Additional Activities to Promote Collaboration
  - ▶ Planning
  - ▶ Other activities to support a milieu appropriate for provision of prerelease services

# Assessing Readiness for Implementation

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- ▶ **HCA will require correctional facilities to attest to readiness** to participate in the Initiative prior to “go-live” with pre-release services beginning on July 1, 2025.
  - ▶ Readiness assessments will cover key implementation requirements needed for successful implementation, such as Medicaid application processes and reentry planning.
- ▶ **Agencies may submit their assessments to HCA on a rolling basis prior to go-live.**
  - ▶ HCA will provide guidance on specific timelines at a later date.
- ▶ **HCA will review submissions and determine whether agencies are ready** to go-live with pre-release services.

# Resources

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- ▶ [MTP 2.0 Summary](#)
- ▶ [Approval letter from CMS](#)
- ▶ [MTP renewal page](#)
- ▶ [MTP website section](#)
- ▶ For questions, please reach out to the Medicaid Transformation inbox (medicaidtransformation@hca.wa.gov)



# Questions?

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