



Connecticut Medical Assistance Program
Policy Transmittal 2022-26

Provider Bulletin 2022-34
April 2022

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH, Commissioner

Effective Date: May 1, 2022
Contact: See Below

TO: All Providers

RE: New Eligibility Group HUSKY B Prenatal Care

Immigrants who do not have a legal immigration status are less likely than U.S. citizens to have health care coverage, including adequate prenatal care. This is in part due to fewer interactions with the health care system, and the impact of past immigration policies. It is critical for immigrants to have access to health care – to advance health equity and reduce health disparities, such as maternal mortality. Federal law limits Medicaid coverage for this group to treatment of an “emergency medical condition.”

The Connecticut General Assembly enacted legislation (PA 21-176, § 4) to help address issues with access to health care by immigrant populations. Pursuant to this legislation, the Department of Social Services (DSS) will be adding a new eligibility group to its HUSKY B (“CHIP” or Children’s Health Insurance Program) program, starting on April 1, 2022. This new group, HUSKY B Prenatal Care, will allow pregnant individuals who are not citizens or qualified non-citizens (that is, individuals without a legal immigration status or “undocumented” individuals) to receive full CHIP benefits, including prenatal care. The income limit for this group will be the same as the limit for pregnant women covered under Medicaid, 263% of the federal poverty level.

Beneficiaries will remain eligible regardless of changes in circumstances that may affect eligibility, such as a change in income, family size with the exception of death, moving out

of state or if a person requests to disenroll from the program.

Generally, certain immigrants, including undocumented immigrants, are not eligible for Medicaid or CHIP. However, under federal regulation, 42 C.F.R. § 457.10, states may use the “unborn child option” to extend CHIP coverage by considering an unborn child as a low-income child who is eligible for prenatal care.

In states that use this option, the unborn child receives CHIP coverage for prenatal care regardless of the mother’s immigration status.

Enrollment

Providers can advise an individual to apply for this program by contacting Access Health CT by phone at 1-855-805-4325. Individuals may also apply in person at a DSS Service Center location.

For more information visit:

[New Prenatal Coverage & Extended Postpartum Coverage \(ct.gov\)](#)

Eligibility system changes are in progress. Once the system changes have been completed, enrollments into the program can be processed. Individuals who apply on or after April 1st will receive a denial of regular HUSKY Health. However, a review of all denials will be done on a daily basis and if individuals appear to qualify, a separate notice will be sent confirming enrollment into

the program. All applications received and approved in April will have an effective date of April 1, 2022. All applications received and approved in May will have an effective date of May 1, 2022.

Eligibility Verification

The Gainwell Automated Eligibility Verification System (AEVS) will return the following response for clients eligible for this new coverage group: “HUSKY B Prenatal Care.”

Services Covered

In addition to pregnancy-related services, individuals in this group will be able to receive all other HUSKY B covered services (medical (including prescription drugs), dental and behavioral health) services.

Co-payments/Cost Share

There will be no co-payments or cost sharing imposed on the pregnancy-related services. Other preventive services will also be exempt from co-payments and other cost-sharing. Other non-preventive HUSKY B services, such as non-preventive dental services, will be subject to existing HUSKY B cost-sharing requirements.

Providers should collect a copayment for the codes listed on the applicable HUSKY B fee schedule as Gainwell Technologies payment deducts the copayment amount from the payment from claims submitted. Please note, that because this group receives HUSKY B coverage, the \$1,000.00 annual benefit maximum limit for dental benefits does not apply.

Medical Claims Submission

Providers should continue to submit claims electronically to Gainwell Technologies for

individuals eligible under HUSKY B Prenatal Care.

Posting Instructions:

Policy transmittals can be downloaded from the Web site at www.ctdssmap.com.

Distribution:

This policy transmittal is being distributed to providers of the CMAP by Gainwell Technologies.

Responsible Unit:

For Questions Related to Eligibility: DSS Medical Eligibility Policy at EligPolicy.DSS@ct.gov.

Date Issued: April 2022