

Fact Sheet

NC Medicaid Direct Overview

NC Medicaid Direct covers beneficiaries who are not enrolled in Standard Plans or Tailored Plans.

NC Medicaid transitioned most Medicaid beneficiaries to Standard Plans on **July 1, 2021**.

On **Oct. 1, 2023**, NC Medicaid will transition beneficiaries who need certain services for a mental health disorder, substance use disorder, intellectual/developmental disability (I/DD) or traumatic brain injury (TBI) to Behavioral Health Intellectual/Development Disability Tailored Plans (Tailored Plans).

Some beneficiaries will remain in NC Medicaid Direct (excluded) or can choose NC Medicaid Direct instead of a health plan (exempt). This fact sheet provides details on what NC Medicaid Direct is and who qualifies for NC Medicaid Direct.

WHAT IS NC MEDICAID DIRECT?

NC Medicaid Direct is North Carolina's health care program for Medicaid beneficiaries who are not enrolled in a health plan or EBCI Tribal Option. Beneficiaries in NC Medicaid Direct receive care management from two entities:

- Community Care of North Carolina (CCNC) provides care management for physical health services
- Six Local Management Entity/Managed Care Organizations (LME/MCOs) coordinate services for mental health and substance use disorders, I/DD or TBI and Tailored Care Management (TCM)

Beneficiaries may receive physical health services from all NC Medicaid-enrolled providers and behavioral health, I/DD, substance use disorder and waiver services from providers contracted with their LME/MCOs.

WHAT IS CCNC ?

CCNC provides care management to make sure beneficiaries get health care services when and where they need them. Beneficiaries may qualify for a care manager who will:

- Help them understand their Medicaid benefits
- Work with their primary care provider (PCP) to provide health care services
- Help arrange appointments and transportation to Medicaid-covered services
- Coordinate with their behavioral health providers

- Connect them to helpful resources in their community

WHAT IS AN LME/MCO?

An LME/MCO offers services related to a mental health and substance use disorders, I/DD or TBI. These services may include:

- Seeing a counselor, psychologist or psychiatrist for a mental health disorder
- Getting help for children who have attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Getting help with alcohol or drug use
- Care coordination, such as helping beneficiaries access specialty behavioral health services

LME/MCOs will also provide TCM for eligible beneficiaries. TCM services include:

- A single, designated care manager to plan and coordinate the beneficiary's health care needs, services and access to resources.
- Help arrange appointments and transportation to and from provider appointments.
- Follow up with doctors or specialists about the beneficiary's care needs.

There are six LME/MCOs and only one LME/MCO serves each county.

Alliance Health: Cumberland, Durham, Johnston, Mecklenburg, Orange, Wake

Eastpointe: Duplin, Edgecombe, Greene, Lenoir, Robeson, Sampson, Scotland, Warren, Wayne, Wilson

Partners Health Management: Burke, Cabarrus, Catawba, Cleveland, Davie, Forsyth, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Rutherford, Stanly, Surry, Union, Yadkin

Sandhills Center: Anson, Davidson, Guilford, Harnett, Hoke, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Randolph, Richmond, Rockingham

Trillium Health Resources: Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Columbus, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Martin, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, Washington

Vaya Health: Alamance, Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Caldwell, Caswell, Chatham, Cherokee, Clay, Franklin, Graham, Granville, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Person, Polk, Rowan, Stokes, Swain, Transylvania, Vance, Watauga, Wilkes, Yancey

NC MEDICAID POPULATIONS

The following people qualify for full benefits in NC Medicaid Direct:

- Children/youth in foster care
- Children/youth who get adoption assistance
- Former foster care youth
- Children who get Community Alternatives Program for Children (CAP/C) services
- People who get Community Alternatives Program for Disabled Adults (CAP/DA) services

- Federally recognized tribal members or others who qualify for services through Indian Health Service (IHS)
- People in the Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
- People who are medically needy
- People who get Medicaid and Medicare
- People who have a mental health disorder, substance use disorder, I/DD or TBI*
- People who get Innovations Waiver services*
- People who get TBI Waiver services*

The following people qualify for limited benefits in NC Medicaid Direct:

- People who get Family Planning only
- People who only get coverage of Medicare premiums or coverage of private insurance premiums through the Health Insurance Premium Payment program (HIPPP)

* Most of these beneficiaries will transition to Tailored Plans on Oct. 1, 2023. Beneficiaries may have different health care options based on their managed care status in NC FAST.

NC MEDICAID DIRECT SERVICES

NC Medicaid Direct offers the same basic benefits and services as the Tailored Plans and Standard Plans. For a full list, go to ncmedicaidplans.gov/learn/benefits-and-services.

