



Fact Sheet

NC Medicaid Optional COVID-19 Testing Program: Reimbursement of COVID-19 Testing Costs for Uninsured North Carolinians

As of Sept. 1, 2020, Medicaid providers can be reimbursed for COVID-19 testing of uninsured individuals under the **NC Medicaid Optional COVID-19 Testing (MCV) program**. This program will end when there is no longer a COVID-19 federal declaration of emergency.

Background

States have the option to cover COVID-19 testing for uninsured individuals through the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) and NC Medicaid chose to enact this option through the new MCV program.

Uninsured Individuals

Funding can be used for individuals who are uninsured, a resident of North Carolina and meet the citizenship and legal immigration status requirements of the Medicaid program. Medicaid is required to verify citizenship and immigration status.

NOTE: Individuals currently enrolled in NC Medicaid's limited "Family Planning Only" benefit and who have no other health insurance coverage are automatically enrolled in the MCV program and do not need to complete an application.

Individuals who qualify for the MCV program will remain in the program throughout the federal declaration of emergency period. Costs for COVID-19 tests are covered retroactive to three months prior, provided individuals were uninsured at the time of the test.

How to Apply

The quickest way to confirm someone qualifies is to complete an online application at: <https://epass.nc.gov/nf-apply-for-covid-testing/overview>

If an online application does not work for an individual, complete a paper application and mail it to the address on the form. Please note that the processing time for paper applications is estimated to be 2-6 weeks. Paper applications are available at testing sites, provider offices and on the Medicaid website at: <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/about-us/covid-19-guidance-and-resources/providers/covid-19-guidance-resources-medicare>.

Providers

Testing site providers and labs must be enrolled in Medicaid to be reimbursed for COVID-19 testing costs for an individual enrolled in the MCV program.

Provider Claims Filing and MCV Verification

An individual must be enrolled in the MCV program before providers can be reimbursed for COVID-19 testing services. Providers will need to wait to submit claims for testing until the individual qualifies.

Refer to [SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID #128: NC Medicaid Optional COVID-19 Testing Program Online Applications Available](#) for provider options to verify eligibility and submit claims.