



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Health Benefits

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

JAY LUDLAM • Deputy Secretary, NC Medicaid

December 4, 2024

Re: Updates Related to Hurricane Helene Flexibilities for Determining Medicaid Eligibility

Dear County Director of Social Services:

On September 28, 2024, President Biden approved Governor Roy Cooper's request for a Federal Major Disaster Declaration for 25 counties and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (ECBI) in western North Carolina as a result of the impact of Hurricane Helene. As the clean-up and rebuilding effort continues, most local agencies have resumed normal operations.

The purpose of this letter is to inform counties that the Division of Health Benefits (DHB) is providing updated guidance regarding the flexibilities allowed for counties impacted by the disaster.

The federal public health emergency related to Hurricane Helene will end **December 25, 2024**. **Therefore, most flexibilities that NC Medicaid implemented in response to the disaster will expire on December 25, 2024. This is a change from the previously stated end date of December 31, 2024.**

Applications:

As a reminder, applicants or their authorized representatives may apply for Medicaid in any county. If a county receives an application for an individual who does not reside in that county, the application must be accepted. Applications for individuals who have been temporarily displaced due to the recent disaster caused by Hurricane Helene should be processed by the county which receives the application. Applications for individuals who reside in the counties noted above should be processed using the flexibilities found in DHB Administrative Letter 05-24, Amended 2. Flexibilities included in the administrative letter are available through **December 25, 2024**.

NC MEDICAID

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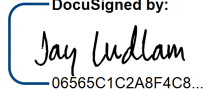
Recertifications:

Medicaid recertifications for beneficiaries who are in the impacted counties resumed as of November 1, 2024. NC FAST will continue to extend all recertifications that are not completed timely. Should a county impacted by the disaster need to extend this flexibility, the local agency should contact their assigned Operational Support Team (OST) member.

Change of Circumstances:

Changes of circumstances should now be reacted to according to current policy, regardless of residential county, as of November 1, 2024.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Jay Ludlam
Deputy Secretary, NC Medicaid