

BAL 23-201 COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Transition



The Department of Health and Human Services intends to end the Federal Public Health Emergency (PHE) for COVID-19 on May 11, 2023. Benefits Administration Letter (BAL) 23-201, *COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Transition*, outlines the affect on Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) coverage, as well as Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) eligibility determinations. Below are highlights from BAL 23-201.

❖ **After the PHE expires, FEHB Carriers:**

- ❖ Must continue to cover laboratory and over-the-counter COVID-19 diagnostic tests, but may impose cost-sharing and medical management for these tests, associated items and services, although encouraged to waive them.
- ❖ Must continue to cover, without cost-sharing, COVID-19 vaccines and any other qualifying coronavirus preventive services intended to prevent or mitigate COVID-19 on an in-network basis.
- ❖ Are encouraged to provide notice to covered individuals about changes to key information about their COVID-19 benefits.

❖ **Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP):**

- ❖ States have begun resuming or will soon resume Medicaid and CHIP eligibility reviews following the end of the continuous enrollment condition on March 31, 2023. This could result in loss of coverage for an estimated 15 million people.

Please review BAL 23-201 for details and additional resources that may be utilized to inform your staff and employees of these changes.

Questions?

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