



STAYING ON MEDICAID DURING THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

Effective March 18, 2020, no one who currently has Medicaid will lose coverage during the COVID-19 Emergency unless you voluntarily close your case or move out of the state. This means, your Medicaid case will not be closed during the COVID-19 Emergency even if you lose Medicaid eligibility.

If you receive a notice that your Medicaid case is or will be closed during this time, you should request a Fair Hearing with the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (“OTDA”) within 60 days of the notice to challenge the discontinuance. You must request a Fair Hearing within 10 days of the notice or before the notice “Effective Date” for your Medicaid to remain unchanged. You can request a Fair Hearing online at <http://otda.ny.gov/hearings/request/> or over the phone at 800-342-3334.

Recertifications

All Medicaid cases that were active as of March 18, 2020 and that have coverage end dates between March 2020 and May 2022 are being automatically extended. If your Medicaid case was/is set to end between March 2020 and May 2022, you do not have to return your Medicaid renewal forms and your case will be extended for one year.

If you receive recertification forms that are due in June 2022 or later, you must return the forms or you may lose coverage when your authorization expires. These dates are likely to be extended further.

Meeting your spend-down:

If you meet a monthly spend-down (also called Excess Income or Surplus) to activate your Medicaid coverage, you must still do so to maintain active coverage during the Public Health Emergency. If you cannot submit bills or payment because of a specific COVID-19-related reason (for example, being ill with COVID or caring for a family member), then you can call the Surplus Hotline at 929-221-0835 to state that you have the money or the medical bills to meet your spend-down but are not able to submit them.