

Medicaid Eligibility During COVID-19

The DOH has released a **General Information System (GIS)** message to inform local departments of social services (LDSS) of several changes to support Medicaid eligibility and enrollment during the COVID-19 outbreak. In conjunction with the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) and existing flexibility for states during times of a disaster under federal Medicaid regulations this information is being provided to ensure that Medicaid enrollees experience no loss of coverage for beneficiaries enrolled as of March 18, 2020, as well as ensuring newly eligible individuals are able to access Medicaid benefits. The DOH provides the following information to the LDSS related to Medicaid eligibility during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recertifications - Medicaid cases are being extended without the required renewal during the emergency period, for all active Medicaid cases with authorization and coverage dates ending in March, April, May and June, extending them for 12 months.

Transition of Cases To and From NYSOH – Upstate transitions will be suspended and will re-open under WMS, for NYC transition cases from WMS to NYSOH, only those not gaining coverage through NYSOH will be re-opened by downstate staff, and those turning 65, referrals may be sent to LDSS on a daily basis.

Medicaid Applications – LDSS must allow self-attestation for all eligible criteria except immigration/identity status. Additional information required from the applicant may be requested under certain conditions outlined in this guidance document.