

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance



Office of the Senior Deputy Director
/Medicaid Director

MDL #21-01

MEDICAID DIRECTOR LETTER

To: All Interested Parties
Date: March 10, 2021
Re: Child and Adolescent Supplemental Security Income Program (CASSIP) Enrollment
Eligibility for Individuals Aged 21-26

Please note that effective immediately, the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF), Office of the State Medicaid Director will utilize the “Medicaid Director Letter” (MDL) document type to convey general information regarding agency programs, operations, and/or forthcoming changes to existing program policy.

The purpose of this MDL is to inform all interested parties of a forthcoming change to DHCF’s policy regarding eligibility for enrollment into CASSIP. CASSIP will continue to serve individuals up to age 26, if they are enrolled prior to their 21st birthday.

At this time, DHCF’s Medicaid State Plan provides that, effective October 1, 2021, CASSIP enrollment will be available only for eligible individuals under the age of 21, and that enrollees aged 21-26 will be transitioned to the managed care program on that date. After considering feedback from various stakeholders, DHCF will amend the Medicaid State Plan again to continue to allow individuals who are enrolled prior to their 21st birthday to remain in CASSIP up to age 26. Individuals between the ages of 21 and 26 already enrolled in CASSIP will not be required to transition to Medicaid managed care in 2021. These CASSIP-enrolled individuals age 21 or older will have the option to transition to managed care prior to their 26th birthday at their choice, if preferred. These changes allowing individuals to remain in CASSIP up to age 26 will be memorialized in updated rules and a new State Plan Amendment submission to CMS later this year.

DHCF looks forward to continued collaboration with beneficiaries, providers, and other stakeholders as we work to improve health outcomes so District residents can live their best lives. Questions regarding the CASSIP program may be addressed to Lisa Truitt, Director, Health Care Delivery Management Administration, at lisa.truitt@dc.gov or me at melisa.byrd@dc.gov.

Sincerely,

Melisa Byrd

Melisa Byrd
Senior Deputy Director/Medicaid Director