



## Spring 2023 Changes Coming to Virginia Medicaid/FAMIS Programs

*“Unwinding” the COVID-19 Medicaid Continuous Coverage*

The Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) enacted certain flexibilities to maximize availability and use of Medicaid/FAMIS during the COVID-19 pandemic. Most significantly, the Medicaid “continuous coverage” flexibility made it so **most Medicaid members remained covered throughout the pandemic, without having to renew their eligibility each year.**

### ***What is changing? When?***

Beginning in March 2023, DMAS will have **14 months** to see if all 2.1 million Virginians who are currently covered by Medicaid/FAMIS are still eligible to retain coverage. This is referred to as “unwinding” the continuous coverage. Thanks to automated eligibility systems, DMAS may be able to complete some Medicaid/FAMIS members’ renewal automatically (*called an ex parte renewal*), but others may need to provide more up-to-date information to ensure a successful renewal.

### ***What can Medicaid/FAMIS members, and those who serve them, do to prepare?***

DMAS **needs your help** to ensure that Medicaid/FAMIS members’ contact information is up-to-date, so that they can receive mailed correspondence from the state about their Medicaid/FAMIS renewal at the appropriate time. You can help **now** by encouraging members who have moved since 2019 to **update their contact information (especially mailing address and phone number)** with DMAS.

If a Medicaid/FAMIS member has **moved or changed phone numbers since 2019**, s/he can report this important change:

- To his/her Medicaid/FAMIS **health plan**, aka Managed Care Organization (MCO)
- Online at **commonhelp.virginia.gov**,
- By calling the **local Department of Social Services**, or
- By calling **Virginia’s One Benefits line at 1-833-5CALLVA**.

Then, beginning in late March 2023, Medicaid/FAMIS members should **be on the lookout** for official notices from the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services, their local Department of Social Services, Cover Virginia, or their MCO. They should review these notices and respond, if instructed, to help ensure their Medicaid/FAMIS coverage can continue if they are still eligible.

*For up-to-date information on Medicaid/FAMIS and DMAS’s plans for “unwinding” the continuous coverage, go to [CoverVa.Org/en/phe-planning](https://CoverVa.Org/en/phe-planning).*