

State of California-Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Care Services
P.O. Box 989009, West Sacramento, CA 95798-9850

11/04/2020

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Jane Sample
Do Not Mail
City CA 12345

Important News about the Aged, Blind, and Disabled Federal Poverty Level Program Expansion

Dear Jane Sample,

This letter is about your health benefits. Starting December 1, 2020 you will have the same Medi-Cal benefits, but they will be free. And you may soon be able to get your health care through a Medi-Cal health plan.

We will send you a *My Medi-Cal Choice* Packet in November 2020. The packet tells you how to choose a Medi-Cal health plan, if you want to enroll in one.

If you do not choose to enroll in a Medi-Cal health plan by November 23, 2020, you will stay in fee-for-service Medi-Cal, also known as “regular” Medi-Cal:

Health plan

Regular Medi-Cal (FFS)

Start date

12/1/2020

Dental plan

Medi-Cal Dental

Start date

12/1/2020

What is changing?

Your health coverage will change to free Medi-Cal on December 1, 2020. You will **not** pay a share of cost for Medi-Cal services each month. You may choose to get health coverage through a Medi-Cal health plan. You can read more about these changes on the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page that came with this letter.

What is a Medi-Cal health plan?

A Medi-Cal health plan gives you medically necessary services. A network (group) of doctors give medical and preventive care. Your Medi-Cal health plan will:

- Help manage your care
- Help you find doctors and specialists
- Have a 24-hour nurse advice line

- Have member services to help you
- Help you with transportation to medical visits
- Help you get services you may need that the plan does not cover

What happens next?

You will get a *My Medi-Cal Choice* packet in the mail. It tells you how to choose a health plan and doctor. Once enrolled, you can contact your plan to change your doctor at any time. To enroll in a plan by phone, call Health Care Options (HCO). Call **1-800-430-4263** (TTY: 1-800-430-7077) Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

What if I have Medicare and Medi-Cal? Do I need to do anything?

If you have Medicare and Medi-Cal, you will keep getting most of your medical services and prescription drugs through Medicare. If you have coverage through both Medi-Cal and Medicare, you do **not** have to enroll in a Medi-Cal health plan. You may if you wish.

What are my choices for health services?

You have two choices:

1. You can do nothing and stay in fee-for-service (regular) Medi-Cal.
2. You can choose a Medi-Cal health plan and choose a doctor or clinic by **January 25, 2021**.

If you want to choose a Medi-Cal health plan or choose a doctor or clinic, call HCO at **1-800-430-4263** (TTY: 1-800-430-7077) Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Or mail the choice form that will come in your *My Medi-Cal Choice* packet. If you enroll in a health plan before **November 23, 2020**, your health plan may start as early as **December 1, 2020**.

How do I get dental services?

You will get dental services from the Medi-Cal Dental Program. You can read more about dental services on the FAQ page that came with this letter. You will need to go to a dentist that accepts Medi-Cal Dental. To find a dentist near you, call Medi-Cal Dental Customer Service at **1-800-322-6384** (TTY: 1-800-735-2922).

What other services can I get?

Other services include mental health services, alcohol and drug treatment services, vision (eye) care, and other medically needed services. Read more on the FAQ page that came with this letter.

What should I do now?

- Talk to your doctor or clinic to find out if they work with a Medi-Cal plan.
- Choose the option that's right for you from "**What are my choices for health services?**" above in this letter.
- Call HCO at **1-800-430-4263** (TTY: 1-800-430-7077) for more on plan choices and doctor or clinic choices. Or wait for your *My Medi-Cal Choice* packet to come in the mail in November 2020. The packet comes in a large envelope from the Department of Health Care Services.
- You can also visit our website at: **www.healthcareoptions.dhcs.ca.gov**

If you need more help, call the Department of Health Care Services Ombudsman at 1-888-452-8609 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The call is free.

What if I have more questions?

Substance Use Disorder Services

For help with emergency counseling, detoxification services, and residential or long-term outpatient treatment, contact your local program. Programs are listed in the Alcohol and Other Drugs Program County Directory at:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/SUD-Non-Emergency-Treatment-Referral-Line.aspx>

Mental Health Services

For non-crisis questions, general services or information, contact your local mental health department. They are listed in the County Mental Health Plan Contact List at:

<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/MHPContactList.aspx>

After you are in a Medi-Cal Health plan, you can also call your plan's member services phone number for help with mental health services.

Health Care Options (HCO)

For questions about the changes in your Medi-Cal benefits, help enrolling by phone, help enrolling in a dental plan in Sacramento County, or getting this letter in another language, large print, audio, or Braille:

Call **1-800-430-4263** (TTY: 1-800-430-7077), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Or go to **<http://www.healthcareoptions.dhcs.ca.gov/>**

Medi-Cal Dental Customer Service

For help finding a Medi-Cal dental provider in all counties except Sacramento, clinical screening appointment information, or general Medi-Cal Dental program questions:

Call **1-800-322-6384** (TTY: 1-800-735-2922), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Or go to **<https://www.denti-cal.ca.gov/Beneficiaries/Denti-Cal/>**

Thank you,

Department of Health Care Services