



May 29, 2020

SCDHHS Coronavirus Resources and Updates

The South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) continues to provide important resources and updates to ensure ongoing access to care to Healthy Connections Medicaid members during the outbreak of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). This includes highlighting a new covered benefit to promote the health of our members and making it easier to interact with Healthy Connections Medicaid online.

COVID-19 Testing is a Covered Benefit

Testing for COVID-19 is a very important part of the state's plan to prevent the spread of the disease. In March 2020, SCDHHS added COVID-19 testing as a covered benefit for Healthy Connections Medicaid members as part of our commitment to protect South Carolinians and ensure access to care for our members. This benefit is available without a co-pay to all Healthy Connections Medicaid members.

Well-Child Visits

It is important for all children to attend well-child visits and receive scheduled vaccines during the COVID-19 pandemic. Vaccines prevent measles, mumps, polio, hepatitis and other preventable viral infections. These services are especially important for newborns and children under the age of two.

To ensure access to care during the COVID-19 pandemic, Healthy Connections Medicaid is covering well-child visits and screenings through telehealth for our members. However, SCDHHS supports the American Academy of Pediatrics' recommendation that well-child visits for children under the age of two receive in-person care, if possible.

SCDHHS has partnered with the SC Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics to encourage parents to continue to schedule well-child visits with their pediatricians. Learn more about the importance of scheduling and keeping well-child visits on SCDHHS' [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages and on its [COVID-19 site](#).

New Ways to Sign and Submit Applications and Documents

Applicants and beneficiaries are now able to submit documents electronically to SCDHHS using the email address 8888201204@fax.scdhhs.gov. In addition, applicants, or a person authorized by SCDHHS policy to apply on behalf of an individual, may "sign" an application by typing their name on the signature line and completing the "Is someone helping you fill out this application?" section of the form. For more information about Medicaid eligibility updates during the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit the [FAQ section](#) of [SCDHHS' COVID-19 website](#).

#CountMeIn: Complete the 2020 Census

Check out South Carolina's [#CountMeIn video](#) promoting the 2020 Census. It features 21 well-known South Carolina leaders and celebrities including musicians Darius Rucker and Edwin McCain, Clemson Football Coach Dabo Swinney, UofSC Coach Dawn Staley, U.S. Senator Tim Scott and more.

All South Carolina residents are being asked to complete the census as soon as possible by responding online, by phone or by mail. The census is safe, easy to complete and can be taken in under 10 minutes. The personal information you provide is kept confidential, and the law is required to protect your answers. The United States Census Bureau does not disclose any personal information and is required to protect your answers and responses, which are only used to produce statistics.

Data from the census is used to determine how much federal funding each state receives for key services, including Medicaid. Census data is also being used right now to help federal and state officials figure out how to fund emergency relief efforts across the country.

More information about the census, including how to complete it, can be found on the [2020 United States Census Bureau's website](#).

Other Resources

Additional updates for Healthy Connections Medicaid members were provided in emails sent on [March 20](#) and [April 3](#).

Finally, for more resources, tips and updates, please regularly check accelerateSC's recently launched website [accelerate.sc.gov](#). For the latest public health guidance, check the [South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control](#) and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's](#) COVID-19 webpages.