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# IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE

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## MEDICAID INFORMATION RELEASE #MA18-05

**TO:** Idaho Dual Eligible Stakeholders

**FROM:** Matt Wimmer, Administrator

**SUBJECT:** Idaho Medicaid Plus – A New Program for Idaho Duals

Idaho Medicaid intends to expand managed care coverage for Idaho dual eligible participants who receive both Medicare (Parts A, B and D) *and* Medicaid coverage.

Right now, most people with eligibility for both Medicare and Medicaid must juggle two forms of coverage, with a Medicare card and a Medicaid card. This makes obtaining coverage and managing health care more difficult for dual eligible Medicaid participants. Managed care allows for improved coordination and integration of Medicaid benefits. This is simpler not just for Medicaid participants but also for Medicaid providers and for the state.

As you may be aware, Molina Healthcare of Idaho and Blue Cross of Idaho currently offer coordinated coverage in certain Idaho counties under the True Blue Special Needs Plan and Molina Medicare Options Plus. This partnership between Idaho and these health care plans has been very successful and Idaho is ready to take next steps towards a more comprehensive managed care approach. This new program for duals is called **Idaho Medicaid Plus**.

Idaho Medicaid is developing regulations and asking for federal approval to roll out comprehensive managed care coverage for dual eligible members in nine Idaho counties. **Dual eligible members in those counties would have their choice of one of the available health plans to administer their Medicaid benefits.** If the member does not choose a health plan within a reasonable time, the member would then be randomly assigned to one of the available health plans. Dual eligibles would continue to have the option of choosing traditional Medicare coverage or any Medicare Advantage plan for their Medicare coverage.

Tribal members, pregnant women, and individuals receiving Adult Developmental Disability Waiver services will only be enrolled in a managed care plan if they choose to do so.

**Idaho Medicaid intends to roll out the Idaho Medicaid Plus program starting in Twin Falls County, effective October 1, 2018.** Expansion into additional Idaho counties will be dependent upon successful implementation in Twin Falls County, as measured by performance and quality benchmarks.

To ensure a thoughtful and transparent roll out, Idaho Medicaid welcomes your participation and feedback:

- Federal approval: A draft 1915(b) waiver, a 1915(c) waiver amendment to the Aged and Disabled Waiver, and the Idaho Medicaid Managed Care Quality Strategy will be available for formal public comment from **April 2, 2018 through May 1, 2018** at <http://MMCP.dhw.idaho.gov>.
- State rules: Negotiated rulemaking for proposed changes to Idaho Administrative Code is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 16, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM MDT (2:00 PM – 3:30 PM PDT)** in person, by phone, or by WebEx using the information below.

**Twin Falls Health and Welfare Office**

601 Pole Line Road  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
Conference Room A and C

**WebEx Link:**

<https://idahohomechoicemfpevents.webex.com/idahohomechoicemfpevents/onstage/g.php?MTID=e0b3b0e5b486660e0a31b1457200188d1>

**Audio: Toll Free 1-877-820-7831 Participant Code 614545#**

- General input: Statewide town-hall style meetings for people eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid are scheduled throughout the **month of May**. A calendar of events and locations can be found at <http://MMCP.dhw.idaho.gov>.

Please visit <http://MMCP.dhw.idaho.gov> for ongoing updates and additional information about how to provide input during public comment periods. If you have further questions, please contact [IdahoMMCP@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:IdahoMMCP@dhw.idaho.gov).

Thank you for your participation and interest in Idaho Medicaid.

MW/af