

# MONTANA HEALTHCARE PROGRAMS NOTICE March 3, 2023

### **All Providers**

# **End of Public Health Emergency**

On February 9, 2023, the State of Montana received notice from the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) would be extended for 90 days. Additionally, the Secretary noted that based on current trends regarding COVID-19, HHS is planning for this to be the final renewal and that the PHE will end on May 11, 2023.

Throughout the duration of the public health emergency, many programmatic flexibilities were implemented at both the federal and state levels. This allowed the ability to waive or modify certain requirements in a range of areas. Of significance, many flexibilities and policies have already been made permanent. With input from stakeholders, DPHHS continues to review each flexibility and policy enabled by the PHE to best determine the range of flexibilities that should remain in place once the PHE ends.

As additional information becomes available, DPHHS will provide specific details on the state's unwinding plan to include the flexibilities that will and will not be impacted by the end of the PHE by March 11, 2023, which is 60 days prior to the end of the PHE.

#### References

- Letter to U.S. Governors from HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra on renewing COVID-19 Public Health Emergency
- U.S. HHS Fact Sheet: COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Transition Roadmap

## **Contact and Website Information**

For claims questions or additional information, contact Montana Provider Relations at (800) 624-3958 or (406) 442-1837 or email Montana Provider Relations Helpdesk.

Visit the <u>Montana Healthcare Programs Provider Information website</u> to access your provider type page. Choose Resources by Provider Type in the left-hand menu.