

Medicaid Expansion/ Health and Economic Livelihood Partnership (HELP): Provides for the expansion of health care services to new adults who had not previously been eligible for Medicaid.

Who is Eligible: to be eligible for Medicaid Expansion, members must be:

- Montana residents ages 19 through 64;
- US citizen or documented qualified alien;
- Not incarcerated;
- Not eligible or enrolled in Medicare; and
- Earning a household income 50-138% of the federal poverty level.

Benefits and Services: All Medicaid Expansion/HELP members are covered by the standard Medicaid benefit.

Federal Authority:

- **1115 Demonstration Waiver:** Authorized Montana to:
 - charge premiums to Medicaid Expansion enrollees;
 - provide for 12-month continuous coverage (removed from House Bill 2 in the 2021 Montana Legislature); and
 - require work and community engagement activities of Medicaid Expansion enrollees (Montana submitted an amendment but it was not approved) by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).
- **Alternate Benefit Plan:**
 - Is a State Plan authority; and
 - Authorizes Montana Medicaid to align Medicaid Expansion benefits with the standard Medicaid benefit package.

1115 Demonstration Waiver Update:

- On December 21, 2021, CMS communicated the following in a letter to Montana:
 - Approval of the waiver amendment to remove the 12-month continuous eligibility benefit.
 - Approval of a one-year temporary extension of the waiver to phase out the premium requirement for Medicaid beneficiaries.
- The 1115 demonstration waiver authority will expire December 31, 2022.

Alternate Benefit Plan:

Montana maintains the Alternate Benefit Plan authority to continue to provide state plan-covered services to Medicaid Expansion beneficiaries. **The Alternate Benefit Plan for Medicaid Expansion is not ending. Coverage for qualifying individuals will continue.**

Resources: For more information about Medicaid Expansion, please see the Medicaid Expansion/HELP webpage at: <https://dphhs.mt.gov/helpplan>.