



Commonwealth of Virginia

Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services

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New Website Tool Increases Access to Medicaid Program Information

*~ State agency completed project more than a month before its
legislative deadline ~*

Richmond – The Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) today announced the launch of a new online feature that allows website visitors to [search for topics of interest in the Medicaid state plan](#).

The state plan defines who can receive health coverage under Medicaid, what the eligibility rules are, what services are included in coverage, how the state assures quality care, and how reimbursement rates are set for providers. The 1,314-page plan serves as a contract between the state Medicaid agency and the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

“Rapid change is a given in the health care sector, and the COVID-19 health emergency has accelerated the pace as our agency responded to this historic pandemic,” said Karen Kimsey, DMAS Director. “Our agency is committed to making the state plan accessible to our members, providers, state leaders and other stakeholders. We are excited to make this tool available so that every Virginian can easily find information about our programs and services.”

Changes to the plan are incorporated into state regulations, but the state plan is the most up-to-date source of information about the Medicaid program.

“We know from our work with our Medicaid Member Advisory Committee how engaged our members are in seeking information about their health coverage and services,” said Sarah Hatton, DMAS Deputy of Administration. “We are excited to offer this new resource to our members and stakeholders to ensure they have the most current information about our program.”

The General Assembly passed legislation earlier this year requiring DMAS to add the full text of the state plan to the agency website along with proposed amendments recently submitted to CMS for consideration. DMAS completed the project a month ahead of its deadline.

“Our new agency website continues to build on its mission as a trusted source of information,” said Chris Gordon, DMAS Chief Financial Officer. “I’m proud of our team for their dedication to this project and their quick response to this identified need for improved access to essential information about the Medicaid program.”