

August 8, 2011

AHCCCS Benefit Changes Effective October 1, 2011

On March 15, 2011, Governor Brewer presented her plan to preserve Arizona's Medicaid program with reforms that will drive down costs by an estimated \$500 million in the State's General Fund for the partial first year. The plan was approved by the Legislature as part of the FY 2012 budget adoption.

The plan includes changes to AHCCCS member benefits and will be effective October 1, 2011, unless otherwise indicated. More information is provided below. Continue to check the AHCCCS website for updates as they become available:

<http://www.azahcccs.gov/reporting/legislation/sessions/2010/BenefitChanges.aspx>

POPULATION

The changes to the benefit package impact ***all*** adults 21 years and older regardless of whether they receive services through managed care or fee for service. This population includes both Acute Care AHCCCS members as well as members in the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS). The respite change will also impact children in addition to adults who receive ALTCS and/or behavioral health services.

AHCCCS eligible members who are under the age of 21 years old will continue to receive the full benefit package available under the Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Program.

Complete information regarding benefit changes can be found at <http://www.azahcccs.gov/reporting/legislation/sessions/2010/BenefitChanges.aspx> and http://www.azahcccs.gov/reporting/Downloads/Legislation/2011/BenefitChanges_factsheet.pdf. We urge you and your staff to review the documentation on the AHCCCS website very closely. Our Provider Network Operations team is available for assistance and you may call us at any time.

AHCCCS also has a specific e-mail address for questions regarding the benefit changes LegislativeBenefitChange@azahcccs.gov. Questions will be collected and answered timely and thoroughly.

Thank you!