

Impact of the Public Health Emergency (PHE) on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid benefits

The Basics

What is the Public Health Emergency?

The Public Health Emergency (PHE) is the COVID-19 pandemic and government's response to it.

How does the PHE affect SNAP and Medicaid Benefits?

At the beginning of the PHE, the federal government put a number of programs in place to aid citizens through the PHE's unique difficulties. Such programs include Emergency Allotment SNAP benefits and Continuous Enrollment for Health First Colorado (the state of Colorado's Medicaid program) benefits.

Emergency Allotment (SNAP)

SNAP beneficiaries saw the amount of their benefits increase when the PHE went into effect to the highest amount possible. This is called Emergency Allotment.

On Jan. 31, 2023, the federal government announced the formal end of the PHE on May 11, 2023.

Continuous Coverage (Medicaid)

Congress passed legislation that ensured anyone enrolled in Medicaid (in Colorado, Health First Colorado) programs was guaranteed to keep their health coverage during the PHE. As the PHE unwinds for the Health First Colorado (Medicaid) program, states will return to normal eligibility renewal/redetermination and enrollment processes and requirements.

When do these programs end in Colorado?

Emergency Allotment (SNAP)

- Ends February 2023
- March 2023 is the first month with reduced benefits

Continuous Coverage (Medicaid)

- Renewal and redetermination processes begin April 2023
- Redetermination of cases will take place over the course of a year

How many people are affected?

Jefferson County has **32,071 individuals and 17,499 households** utilizing SNAP benefits.

- According to the state, most households will see a minimum of a \$95 reduction in their benefits, the average reduction being \$90 per person.

Jefferson County has **116,499 individuals and 72,964 households** utilizing Medicaid.

- Redetermination will be required for about 56,000 individuals currently receiving Continuous Coverage (Medicaid).

Resources

Food

- **Catholic Charities of Denver:** 303-742-0828; www.ccdenver.org
- **Children & Adult Care Food Program:** 303-692-2330; www.cdph.colorado.gov/CACFP
- **Community Food Share:** 303-652-3663; www.communityfoodshare.org
- **Community Table:** 303-424-6685; www.cotable.org
- **Evergreen Christian Outreach:** 303-670-1796; www.evergreenchristianoutreach.org
- **Food Bank of the Rockies:** 303-371-9250; www.foodbankrockies.org
- **Hunger Free Colorado:** 720-328-1284; www.hungerfreecolorado.org
- **Jeffco Schools Free or Reduced Meals:** 303-982-6748
- **Metro Caring:** 303-860-7200; www.metrocaring.org
- **Mountain Resource Center:** 303-838-7552; www.mrcco.org
- **Salvation Army:** 303-295-3366; www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/cure-hunger/
- **The Action Center:** 303-237-7704; www.theactioncenter.org
- **The Gathering Place:** 303-321-4198; www.tgpdenver.org
- **United Way 211:** 211 or 303-561-2111; www.unitedwaydenver.org/community-programs/2-1-1
- **Waterstone Food Pantry:** 303-972-2200; www.waterstonechurch.org/serve/

Medical

- **Children's Hospital Colorado: ParentSmart Healthline:** 720-777-0123
- **Clinica Colorado:** 720-433-8461; [www.https://clinicacolorado.org/telehealth/](https://clinicacolorado.org/telehealth/)
- **Colorado Community Health Alliance:** www.cchacares.com
- **Colorado Crisis Services:** 1-844-493-8255 or text "TALK" to 38255; www.coloradocrisiservices.org
- **Connect for Health Colorado:** 855-752-6749; www.connectforhealthco.com
- **COVIDLine:** 720-902-9449
- **Jefferson Center for Mental Health:** 303-425-0300; www.jcmh.org
- **Medicaid:** www.healthfirstcolorado.com
- **Sheridan Clinic:** 303-315-6150; www.nursing.cuanschutz.edu/patient-care/sheridan-health-services
- **STRIDE:** 303-360-6276; www.stridehc.org
- **Women, Infants and Children (WIC):** 303-692-2400; www.coloradowic.gov

Employment

- **Business and Workforce Center:** 303-271-4755; www.jeffco.us/4157
- **Colorado Works:** 303-866-5700; www.cdhs.colorado.gov/colorado-works
- **Employment First:** www.jeffco.us/2644
- **Unemployment Insurance:** 303-318-8000; www.cdle.colorado.gov/unemployment

Additional programs and services can be found at www.jeffco.us/human-services
and www.jeffco.us/4019