

Medicaid Matters



Gov. Bentley announced approval of Medicaid's move to regional care organizations by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on February 9, 2016, as State Sen. Greg Reed (R-Jasper), and Medicaid Commissioner Stephanie Azar look on. (Photo credit: Jamie Martin, Governor's Office)

Alabama Medicaid transformation waiver approved for RCO program

Governor Robert Bentley announced the Alabama Medicaid Agency's regional care organization plan, to provide medical care to most Alabamians on Medicaid, has been approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Reforming Medicaid by increasing efficiency and improving patient care has been a long-term goal for Gov. Bentley.

The February 9, 2016, announcement was the result of a multi-year Medicaid transformation effort. Gov. Bentley established the [Alabama Medicaid Advisory Commission](#) in October of 2012 to evaluate the financial stability of the Alabama Medicaid Agency. [Legislation passed in 2013](#) built on the Commission's work and implemented a managed care structure. Gov. Bentley, members of the Alabama Legislature, staff at the Alabama Medicaid Agency and many health-care professionals have worked since the legislation was passed to [implement RCO's](#) in 5 regions across the state. The RCOs are designed to provide medical care to 650,000 Alabamians who receive full Medicaid benefits.

"Together with the Alabama Legislature, we have made significant progress in the way the Alabama Medicaid Agency operates, making it more effective and efficient," Gov. Bentley said. [Read more >>](#)



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Alabama Medicaid to sponsor statewide series of provider forums

A statewide series of 15 provider forums will be held in February and March for physicians, hospital officials and other interested healthcare professionals who want to learn more about how the Agency's implementation of Regional Care Organizations will impact them.

The forums will be held at noon in Anniston, Auburn, Birmingham, Demopolis, Evergreen, Huntsville, Montgomery and Rainsville. Evening sessions will be held at 5:30 p.m. in Birmingham, Tuscaloosa, Decatur, Dothan, Huntsville, Mobile, and Montgomery.

The forum will update participants on the changes impacting providers when RCOs are implemented on October 1, 2016, provide an update on the RCO implementation effort, and allow time for participant questions.

Reservations are not required. A list of all meetings is available at: http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov/CONTENT/2.0_newsroom/2.7.3.8_RCO_Provider_Forum.aspx

Meeting dates, times and locations for the RCO Provider Forms are:

Thursday, February 11, 2016

Birmingham – Noon

Birmingham Central Public Library
Auditorium

Tuesday, February 16, 2016

Birmingham – 5:30 pm

Homewood Senior Center
Auditorium

Thursday, February 18, 2016

Auburn – Noon

Auburn United Methodist Church
Hamill Court entrance
west of sanctuary

Friday, February 19, 2016

Anniston – Noon

Anniston City Meeting Center
Room A

Monday, February 22, 2016

Huntsville – Noon

Huntsville-Madison County Public
Library Auditorium

Decatur – 5:30 pm

Turner-Surles Center
Auditorium

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Muscle Shoals – Noon

NW Shoals Community College
Hospitality House (Building 116)

Thursday - February 25, 2016

Evergreen - Noon

Train Depot - Chamber of Commerce

Mobile - 5:30 pm

Mobile Government Plaza
Auditorium Main Floor

Monday - February 29, 2016

Demopolis - Noon

Rooster Hall
(on the park in downtown Demopolis)

Tuscaloosa - 5:30 pm

Calvary Baptist Church
Chapel

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Rainsville – Noon

Northeast Alabama Community College
Math, Science, and Engineering Technology
Building

Thursday, March 3, 2016

Dothan - 5:30 pm

SARCOA
(Southern Alabama Regional Council on Aging)
2nd Floor Conference Room

Thursday, March 10, 2016

Montgomery - Noon and 5:30 p.m.

Dalraida Church of Christ
Fellowship Hall

Contact Us: Recipient Questions & Assistance: 1-800-362-1504
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