ALERT

September 22, 2025

TO: All Obstetricians & Gynecologists, Maternity Care Providers, County Health Departments, FQHCs, RHCs, Hospitals, Certified Nurse Midwives, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants

RE: Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnancy (PEP), Effective October 1, 2025

The Alabama Legislature passed Senate Bill 102 (Act 2025-204) during the 2025 legislative session establishing Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnancy (PEP) with implementation on October 1, 2025. This will allow pregnant women early access to ambulatory prenatal care while their application for Medicaid is under review. The major provisions of the law are listed below.

PEP eligibility period:

The PEP eligibility period begins on the date a determination is made by a qualified provider and ends at or on the earliest of the following:

- The date which the Agency makes a determination of eligibility for coverage based on an application submitted by the woman
- If the woman fails to file an application with the agency for coverage, the last day of the month following the month in which the qualified provider made the determination of presumptive eligibility
- No later than the 60th day after the qualified provider made the determination of presumptive eligibility

The PEP benefit plan covers the following ambulatory prenatal services:

- Professional services (e.g. provider office visits, radiology interpretation)
- Outpatient services (e.g. laboratory studies, radiology studies)
- Pharmacy services

The PEP benefit plan DOES NOT COVER:

- Inpatient services
- Dental services

Qualified providers eligible to become determiners for PEP:

- Hospitals
- County Health Departments
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)
- Rural Health Clinics (RHCs)
- Physicians
- Certified Nurse Midwives (CNMs)
- Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNPs)
- Physician Assistants (PAs)

Eligibility Criteria for PEP:

- Must be pregnant
- Must meet income guidelines
 - Income must not exceed the modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) limit for the eligibility for pregnant women which is in effect under the state Medicaid plan
 - Income limits are updated annually and can be found on the Alabama Medicaid website at the following link: Medicaid Eligibility

Self-attestation can be accepted for both pregnancy and income verification

To become a qualified provider/determiner:

- Must complete training provided by Alabama Medicaid
- Must sign an agreement with Alabama Medicaid

Qualified provider requirements:

- The qualified provider must notify the Agency within five business days of the determination
- The qualified provider should inform the patient that she must apply for Medicaid no later than the last day of the following month
 - o Online application for Medicaid: insurealabama.adph.state.al.us

PEP and Alabama Coordinated Health Network:

- Women receiving PEP coverage will not be assigned to an Alabama Coordinated Health Network (ACHN)
- Women receiving PEP coverage will not require an ACHN referral prior to seeing a maternity care provider for prenatal care

PEP Resources can be found here: Alabama Medicaid Maternity Website

Questions about PEP can be directed to: pep@medicaid.alabama.gov.