

# **Alabama Medicaid Agency Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC) and Beneficiary Advisory Council (BAC)**

**Stakeholder Overview**

**May 22, 2025**



# Background



- In 2022, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) finalized the *Ensuring Access to Medicaid Services (Access Rule)* final rule.
- Today we are introducing the portion of the *Access Rule* that requires Medicaid to have a Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC) and a Beneficiary Advisory Council (BAC) by July 9, 2025.
- The *Access Rule* also requires states to form an advisory group, including direct care workers, beneficiaries and other stakeholders, to meet at least every two years and provide input on payment rates for personal care, home health aide, homemaker and habilitation services. Compliance date for the Interested Parties Advisory Group is July 9, 2026.

## Provisions of the *Access Rule*:

- Renames and expands the scope of states' Medical Care Advisory Committees.
- Requires states to establish a BAC comprised of Medicaid beneficiaries, their families and/or caregivers.
- Establishes minimum requirements for MAC membership, including a requirement that 25% of the MAC membership must be pulled from the BAC.
- Requires states to make information about the MAC and BAC activities publicly available, including an annual report.
- Requires states to make at least two MAC meetings per year open to the public.
- Requires states to provide staff to support the planning and execution of the MAC and BAC activities.



# Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC)

**Provide guidance and recommendations to Alabama Medicaid on various aspects of the Medicaid program, including advising on policy development, program administration, and the delivery of health and medical care services.**

**Membership comprised of the following:**

- **Advocacy groups**
- **Clinical providers**
- **Alabama Coordinated Health Networks (ACHNs)**
- **Integrated Care Network (ICNs)**
- **Other state agencies**
- **A portion of the MAC positions must be held by those on the BAC, phased in by June 10, 2026**

**Members must be selected by the Medicaid Commissioner.**

**Members cannot serve back-to-back terms.**

**Meetings must be scheduled at least quarterly, and two of the yearly meetings must be public.**

**MAC Chair and Vice-Chair will be appointed by majority vote.**



# Beneficiary Advisory Committee (BAC)

**Dedicated and supported space for individuals with lived Medicaid experience to identify issues for the MAC and directly advise the State.**

- **Membership comprised of current and/or former beneficiaries, family members and caregivers**
- **Must meet separately from and before each MAC meeting**
- **BAC can decide if any meetings are open to the public**

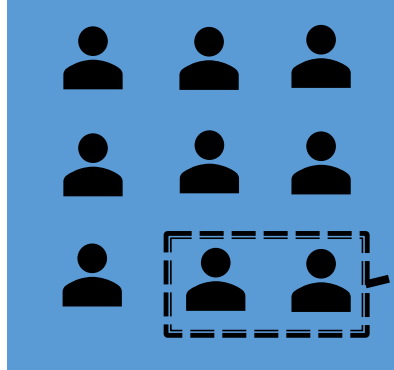


# Comparison

## Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC)

The MAC is a **diverse group of Medicaid stakeholders** with a wide range of perspectives and experiences. The MAC will include:

- ✓ Clinical providers or administrators
- ✓ State or local consumer advocacy groups
- ✓ ACHN and ICN
- ✓ Other state agencies
- ✓ BAC members

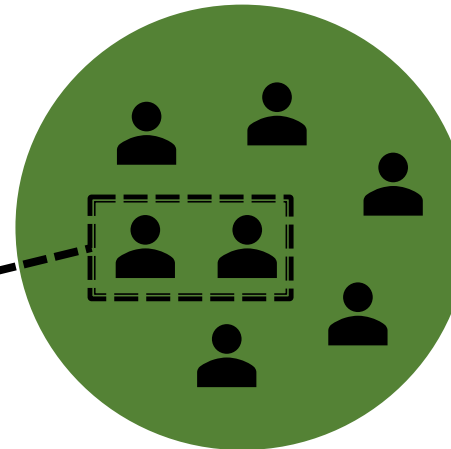


By July 2027, 25% of the MAC members must come from the BAC.

## Beneficiary Advisory Council (BAC)

The BAC is a dedicated forum for **people with lived experience** of the Medicaid program. The BAC will include:

- ✓ A person enrolled in Medicaid currently or in the past
- ✓ A family member of someone enrolled in Medicaid
- ✓ A caregiver of someone enrolled in Medicaid





# Next Steps

- MAC and BAC Bylaws will be developed and placed on the website.
- Medicaid requests local community organizations, advocacy groups and service providers to identify potential members for the BAC.
- Applications for membership will be available for candidates interested in supporting the MAC or BAC.
- Applications will be posted on the Alabama Medicaid website.
- Applications should be submitted to [BAC@medicaid.alabama.gov](mailto:BAC@medicaid.alabama.gov).
- Medicaid will review and consider completed application submissions.
- MAC and BAC will be selected by July 9, 2025.
- MAC and BAC meetings begin September 2025.



**Thank you**  
**for your continued support of the**  
**Alabama Medicaid Agency!**