

Source: The following information is presented in its entirety from North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, *NC Health Choice Move to Medicaid* (2023). Downloaded 1/26/2023 from <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/nc-health-choice-move-medicaid>

NC Health Choice is moving to Medicaid

On April 1, 2023, beneficiaries currently receiving NC Health Choice coverage will move to NC Medicaid.

Currently, North Carolina has two similar, but different, programs that offer medical coverage for eligible children age 6 to 18 – NC Medicaid and NC Health Choice.

A provision included in the North Carolina state budget, approved in July 2022, directed the Department of Health and Human Services to move NC Health Choice beneficiaries from the NC Health Choice program to the Medicaid program.

What are the benefits of this change?

With NC Medicaid beneficiaries will:

- No longer have enrollment fees or copays
- Be eligible for [Non-Emergency Medical Transportation \(NEMT\)](#) for Medicaid-covered services
- Have pregnancy and 12-month postpartum coverage
- Be eligible for [Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment \(EPSDT\)](#); a benefit designed to discover and treat health conditions before they become serious

Do beneficiaries need to do anything?

NC Health Choice beneficiaries do not have to take any action on their own for the change to take effect; they will be automatically transferred to NC Medicaid.

With the move to Medicaid, NC Health Choice beneficiaries will keep their Medicaid ID number (sometimes called recipient number) and should keep using their current ID card until they get their new Medicaid ID card in the mail.

Beneficiaries in the NC Health Choice program cannot opt out of moving to the Medicaid program. NC Health Choice will no longer be an offered program, beginning April 1, 2023.

What do providers need to do?

Providers enrolled in **both** NC Health Choice and NC Medicaid will not need to do anything. Providers who are enrolled **only** in NC Health Choice will need to enroll in Medicaid to continue serving these beneficiaries.

Providers should continue to verify a beneficiary's eligibility through NCTracks with their Medicaid ID number.

Timeline

March 2023

- NC Health Choice beneficiaries will be mailed letters with information on the move to Medicaid and the new benefits.
- NC Health Choice beneficiaries will be mailed a Medicaid ID card.

April 1, 2023

Medicaid coverage begins

Resources

NC Health Choice Move to Medicaid Beneficiary Fact Sheet

[English](#) | [Spanish](#)

NC Medicaid Contact Center

[888-245-0179](tel:888-245-0179)