

NUMBER

#24-21-07

DATE

May 3, 2024

OF INTEREST TO

County Directors

Social Services Supervisors and
Staff

Financial Assistance Supervisors
and Workers

Tribal Chairpersons and Tribal
Health Directors

Navigators, Certified
Application Counselors and
Brokers

ACTION/DUE DATE

Please read. Informational only.

EXPIRATION DATE

May 3, 2026

DHS Resumes Monthly Premiums for Certain MinnesotaCare Enrollees for July 2024 Coverage

TOPIC

Monthly premiums for certain MinnesotaCare enrollees are resuming with premiums for July 2024 coverage.

PURPOSE

This bulletin announces the resumption of MinnesotaCare premiums for certain enrollees.

CONTACT

County and tribal agencies should submit policy questions via HealthQuest. All others should direct questions to:

Health Care Eligibility and Access Division
PO Box 64989
540 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55164-0989

SIGNED



JULIE MARQUARDT

Interim State Medicaid Director
Health Care Administration

TERMINOLOGY NOTICE

The terminology used to describe the people we serve has changed over time. The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the use of "People First" language.

I. Background

Certain MinnesotaCare enrollees must pay a monthly premium to establish and maintain coverage. The premium amount is based on household income and household size. Children under age 21, families with a military member who recently completed a tour of active duty, and people who are American Indians or Alaska Natives are exempt from monthly MinnesotaCare premiums. See the Eligibility Policy Manual (EPM) [Section 3.1.2.2 MinnesotaCare Premiums and Cost Sharing](#) for more information about premium exceptions.

The MinnesotaCare premium scale was lowered, and premiums were temporarily eliminated for enrollees with household income under 160 percent of the federal poverty guideline (FPG) in 2021. This was due to the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), which increased premium tax credits for people purchasing coverage through the health insurance marketplace. On August 16, 2022, the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 extended the premium tax credit increase through December 31, 2025. Accordingly, the Department of Human Services (DHS) extended the reduced MinnesotaCare premium scale with no premiums for enrollees under 160% FPG through December 31, 2025. See [Bulletin #22-21-07](#) and the [MinnesotaCare Premium Estimator Table \(DHS-4139A\)](#) for more information about the reduced premium scale.

Subsequently, the 2023 Minnesota legislature passed a law that temporarily suspended all MinnesotaCare premiums for coverage from May 2023 through June 2024. On April 28, 2023, DHS published [Bulletin #23-21-12](#) to announce this temporary policy.

This bulletin announces the resumption of MinnesotaCare premiums under the reduced scale, beginning with premiums for July 2024 coverage. DHS will issue a bulletin before the expiration of the reduced premium scale in December 2025.

II. MinnesotaCare Premiums Resume

A. Current Enrollees

DHS mailed the [Important Information About MinnesotaCare Premiums notice \(DHS-8566A\) \(PDF\)](#) to all MinnesotaCare enrollees to tell them that MinnesotaCare premiums are resuming on April 22, 2024.

Starting with premiums for July 2024 coverage, MinnesotaCare enrollees will receive a monthly premium invoice in the mail each month. Enrollees must pay their premiums to keep their MinnesotaCare coverage. DHS will mail the July 2024 premium invoices to enrollees the week of May 13, 2024. DHS will include the [MinnesotaCare Premium Resumption Stuffer \(DHS-8566\) \(PDF\)](#) in premium invoices being sent to enrollees who must pay a premium to keep their coverage. The stuffer is a one-time notice that reminds enrollees they must pay their July premium to keep their MinnesotaCare coverage and provides information about MinnesotaCare premium rules. MinnesotaCare enrollees who do not have to pay a premium due to the reduced premium scale will not receive the stuffer with their July premium invoice.

B. New Enrollees

DHS will start mailing initial premium invoices to applicants determined eligible for MinnesotaCare on or after May 16, 2024. Note the following:

- People who are determined eligible for MinnesotaCare from May 16 through May 31, 2024, will be enrolled for coverage without a premium beginning June 1, 2024. These enrollees will receive an initial premium invoice indicating a zero premium for June coverage and the amount they must pay for July coverage. The initial premium invoices for enrollees who must pay a premium to keep their coverage will include the [MinnesotaCare Premium Resumption Stuffer \(DHS-8566\) \(PDF\)](#).
- People who are determined eligible for MinnesotaCare on or after June 1, 2024, and who are required to pay a monthly premium, must pay the initial premium amount to enroll in MinnesotaCare coverage. MinnesotaCare coverage begins the month after DHS receives their first premium payment.
- People who are determined eligible for MinnesotaCare on or after June 1, 2024, who do not have a monthly premium will have coverage begin the first day of the month after eligibility is approved. See EPM [Section 3.4.1 MinnesotaCare Begin and End Dates](#) for more information.

C. Coverage Closure for Failure to Pay the Premium

MinnesotaCare enrollees must pay their premiums no later than the last business day of the month before the month of coverage to avoid gaps in coverage. An enrollee who does not pay the premium timely receives coverage for a one-month grace period. DHS mails enrollees the MinnesotaCare Grace Month Premium notice, and coverage stops at the end of the grace month if they fail to pay their past due premium by noon on the last business day of the grace month.

MinnesotaCare eligibility does not end when an enrollee has coverage closed for failure to pay the monthly premium. DHS will continue to mail premium invoices to eligible people after their coverage is closed for nonpayment. The person does not need to reapply to get coverage again. To restart coverage, the person must pay the grace month premium and the premium for a future month. Coverage starts again on the first day of the month after DHS receives the total amount due. See EPM [Section 3.1.2.2 MinnesotaCare Premiums and Cost Sharing](#) for more information.

D. How to Pay the Premium

MinnesotaCare enrollees can pay their premiums in the following ways:

- Online at <https://payments.dhs.state.mn.us>
Select MinnesotaCare from the menu. Enrollees will need their case number, the invoice number, and the amount of the premium. They can pay by credit card (VISA or MasterCard) or electronic withdrawal from a checking account.
- By phone at 800-657-3672, option 1 for enrolled, option 1 again to make a payment

Enrollees will need their case number, the invoice number and amount of the premium. They pay by credit card, debit card (VISA or MasterCard), or electronic withdrawal from a checking account.

- By mail

Enrollees should allow enough time for the payment to arrive by the due date on their bill. They can pay by check or money order. Enrollees should not mail cash. They should write their case number on the check or money order and mail their payment with the payment stub from their bill to this address:

MinnesotaCare
PO Box 64834
St. Paul, MN 55164-0834

- In person at the MinnesotaCare office in St. Paul

Minnesota Department Human Services
540 Cedar St
St. Paul, MN 55155

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, not including holidays

If paying in person, enrollees can pay by cash, check or money order. If paying by cash, they must have the exact amount. Cashiers do not give change.

Information about how to pay a MinnesotaCare premium is also available on the back of the MinnesotaCare premium invoice and on the [DHS website](#).

III. Action Required

County, tribal and DHS workers must follow the policy outlined in this bulletin.

IV. Legal Authorities

Laws of Minnesota 2023, chapter 22, section 2

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Advisory

This information is available in accessible formats for people with disabilities by calling 651-297-3862 or toll-free at 800-657-3672 or by using your preferred relay service. For other information on disability rights and protections, contact the agency's ADA coordinator.