



**State of Louisiana**  
Louisiana Department of Health  
Bureau of Health Services Financing

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** May 10, 2021

**TO:** Medicaid Providers

**FROM:** Louisiana Medicaid

**SUBJECT:** UPDATE: Medicaid Eligibility Group Provides COVID-19 Related Coverage for Uninsured Patients

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Per the Families First Coronavirus Response Act and the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Louisiana Medicaid is covering COVID-19 testing and testing-related services for uninsured individuals. **It was expanded to include vaccines and vaccine administration by the American Rescue Plan Act, effective March 11, 2021.**

A temporary Medicaid COVID-19 Uninsured Eligibility Group was created to provide the COVID-19 testing benefit. The same eligibility group will cover vaccines and vaccine administration costs for uninsured individuals. Coverage is delivered through Medicaid fee-for-service and not through a Healthy Louisiana managed care organization. Providers must be a Medicaid enrolled provider and must be enrolled before services are provided. Providers not enrolled as a Medicaid provider will need to complete a [temporary emergency application](#) with Medicaid's fiscal intermediary, Gainwell Technologies, to be paid for testing, testing related services, vaccines or vaccine administration for the uninsured. Providers will be required to self-attest on the uninsured individual's application to Medicaid that they are not also [billing the Department of Health and Human Services \(HHS\) or the Health Resources and Services Administration \(HRSA\)](#) for the same services. Providers are also prohibited from billing on any contract with the Louisiana Department of Health to provide COVID-19 testing or vaccines for these individuals. If Medicaid identifies other third party coverage is available (e.g., Medicare, private insurance), Medicaid will not cover the services.

For additional guidance, visit [Medicaid's provider web page for COVID-19 coverage for uninsured individuals](#). The site contains billing information, a [detailed provider guide](#), frequently asked questions for providers, and the [simplified application](#) patients can fill out to determine if they are eligible for coverage.