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SUBJECT

Update to the Medical Assistance ACCESS ID Card

BY



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Deputy Secretary
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IMPORTANT REMINDER: All providers must revalidate the Medical Assistance (MA) enrollment of each service location every 5 years. Providers should log into PROMISe to check the revalidation dates of each service location and submit revalidation applications at least 60 days prior to the revalidation dates. Enrollment (revalidation) applications may be found at: <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/PROMISe-Enrollment.aspx>.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to notify all providers the Department of Human Services (Department) will begin distribution of redesigned MA ACCESS ID Cards.

SCOPE:

This bulletin applies to all providers in the MA Program who render services to beneficiaries enrolled in the MA fee-for-service delivery system.

BACKGROUND:

In 2019, the Department redesigned the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card for recipients of Cash Assistance and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The new EBT card is more visually appealing and resembles a credit or debit card. The Department has now updated the design of the MA ACCESS ID Card as well. For many years, the MA ACCESS ID card featured blue lettering on a bright yellow background. The new design has been developed to better resemble a commercial health insurance card.

DISCUSSION:

Beginning in the summer of 2020, new MA beneficiaries will receive the redesigned card. Existing MA beneficiaries needing a replacement MA ACCESS ID card will also receive the redesigned card. Yellow ACCESS cards remain valid for all other MA beneficiaries.

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

The appropriate toll free number for your provider type.

Visit the Office of Medical Assistance Programs website at:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Health%20Care%20for%20Providers/Contact-Information-for-Providers.aspx>.

The new card will display the same information as before (name, MA ID number, and card issue number) but will no longer have a magnetic strip or signature strip on the back. The attached image shows the design of the new card, which is white with blue and black lettering.

Providers should continue to check beneficiaries' MA eligibility through the Eligibility Verification System (EVS) when presented with either a white or yellow MA ACCESS ID card.

ATTACHMENTS:

MA ACCESS ID Card example



ACCESS

NAME: Individual Name

ID #: 987654321

CARD ISSUE #: 0123456789

PENNSYLVANIA ACCESS CARD

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Human Services

**MISUSE OR ABUSE OF THIS CARD MAY MAKE YOU LIABLE FOR
CIVIL ACTION AND/OR CRIMINAL PROSECUTION**

To Report Fraud and Abuse Call: 1-800-932-0582

Return Postage Guaranteed. If found, drop in nearest United States Mail Box. Return to Department of Human Services, Harrisburg, PA 17105.

NOTE: Even if you or people you are financially responsible for do not obtain services using your ACCESS Card, benefit payments could be made on your behalf or their behalf. If you fail to report changes timely, you may be required to repay these benefits.