



RON DESANTIS  
GOVERNOR

JASON WEIDA  
SECRETARY

June 12, 2022

Joshua Bougie, Project Officer  
Division of State Coverage Programs  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Blvd., MS S2-01-16  
Baltimore, MD 21244

RE: COVID-19 Disaster Relief Extension – Florida

Dear Mr. Bougie:

Florida's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) State Plan contains disaster relief provisions including extending renewal dates for a specified period of time, and either extending the premium payment due dates for a specified period of time or waiving premium due dates.

On May 7, 2020, Florida activated certain provisions listed within the Florida CHIP State Plan in response to the COVID-19 Florida State of Emergency and the Federal Public Health Emergency (PHE). The state wishes to notify the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that we intend to continue the following approved disaster relief actions statewide, through April 30, 2024:

- Allow additional time for the family to complete the renewal process.
- Allow additional time to make premium payments.
- Retroactive enrollment for new applicants to the start of the month when the application is approved, and payment is received.

The administration of the Florida KidCare Separate CHIP program continued as usual except for the previously noted policy flexibilities. As a requirement to receive additional Medicaid and CHIP Federal funding during the PHE, the state provided continuous Medicaid coverage and did not disenroll ineligible recipients. The requirements of Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) to maintain eligibility and premiums did not apply to the Florida KidCare separate CHIP program(s) but did apply to Medicaid beneficiaries funded with CHIP dollars. The Separate CHIP program did not implement start and end dates for the state's unwinding period.

Thank you for your assistance as we partner to ensure health care coverage is available to the children in these impacted counties. Please contact Catherine McGrath, of my staff, at [Catherine.McGrath@ahca.myflorida.com](mailto:Catherine.McGrath@ahca.myflorida.com), if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,  
/Signed by Austin Knoll/

Austin Noll  
Deputy Secretary  
Medicaid Policy, Quality, and Operations

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