

# SPECIAL eBULLETIN

FOR PROFESSIONAL AND FACILITY PROVIDERS

June 10, 2022

## HIGHMARK'S PENNSYLVANIA CHIP PRODUCT WILL BECOME HIGHMARK HEALTHY KIDS ON JULY 1, 2022

Highmark's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) will be rebranded to Highmark Healthy Kids effective **July 1, 2022**. It will be administered by Highmark Choice Company across the 62 counties of PA serviced by Highmark. As part of this initiative, Highmark is creating a new, separate and distinct CHIP provider network to support this new statewide CHIP HMO product, which will be called PA CHIP, and will support CHIP in all three Pennsylvania service areas:

- Western PA (WPA)
- Central PA (CPA)
- Northeastern PA (NEPA)

All existing CHIP providers from Highmark's commercial networks (First Priority Health, PremierBlue Shield and KHPW) will be included in PA CHIP.

**NOTE:** Providers should ensure their PROMISe ID is current and up to date. All CHIP PROMISe ID information for each provider will be pulled onto the new network information and will not require any additional action. Providers can enroll in PROMISe ID to provide care to CHIP members and are not required to enroll for Medicaid if they do not wish to.

### What's Changing for Providers?

Highmark Healthy Kids is an HMO product. Providers in WPA and NEPA will not see any changes to CHIP medical, prescription, dental and vision benefits and processes.

Providers in CPA will need to follow the HMO rules for out-of-network (OON) care and authorizations. CHIP members' product design will change from a PPO with Gatekeeper product to an HMO product. **The medical, prescription, dental and vision benefits will not change.**



This information is issued on behalf of Highmark Blue Shield and its affiliated Blue companies, which are independent licensees of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Highmark Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Shield and certain of its affiliated Blue companies serve Blue Shield members in 21 counties in central Pennsylvania and 13 counties in northeastern New York. As a partner in joint operating agreements, Highmark Blue Shield also provides services in conjunction with a separate health plan in southeastern Pennsylvania. Highmark Inc. or certain of its affiliated Blue companies also serve Blue Cross Blue Shield members in 29 counties in western Pennsylvania, 13 counties in northeastern Pennsylvania, the state of West Virginia plus Washington County, Ohio, the state of Delaware and 8 counties in western New York. All references to Highmark in this document are references to Highmark Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Shield and/or to one or more of its affiliated Blue companies.

CPA CHIP members will need providers to obtain a prior authorization for any OON care unless it is an emergent or urgent care situation.

## Member Information

On July 1, 2022, current Highmark PA CHIP members will be automatically migrated into the new Highmark Healthy Kids HMO program group numbers. Letters announcing the new Highmark Healthy Kids program were sent to all existing CHIP members in early June. **Member benefits, copays and monthly premiums will not change.** To enroll in the program, families can call 800-543-7105 weekdays, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Why are we launching Highmark Healthy Kids?

- All PA CHIP members enrolled with Highmark will migrate to the new 62-county HMO product to meet PA CHIP managed care requirements. The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services administers CHIP in Pennsylvania.

### 2. Will there be changes to the existing CHIP members' provider network?

- No. All current CHIP providers are included in the new PA CHIP network, which includes all 62 counties of Highmark's PA footprint. The five counties served by Independent Blue Cross are not impacted.

### 3. Will there be changes to the current provider reimbursement for CHIP?

- There are no reimbursement changes due to the product change. Later this year, the PA CHIP Professional Fee Schedule will launch Sept. 1, 2022. Details of the PA CHIP professional provider fee schedule change were announced on June 1 and can be found on the [Provider Resource Center](#).
- The Facility reimbursement for Highmark Healthy Kids is not changing.

### 4. Will existing CHIP members receive a new ID Card?

- Yes, all CHIP members will receive a new Highmark Healthy Kids ID card. Please be sure to ask members for their new CHIP ID cards to ensure you have the new group number.
- ID cards will be issued the week of June 13 in advance of the first effective date of July 1.

### 5. Is there out-of-area (OOA) or out-of-network (OON) care for Highmark Healthy Kids?

- Highmark Healthy Kids is an HMO product. OOA or OON services are eligible for emergent care and urgent care situations or when a prior authorization has been obtained in advance.

### 6. Will members have to "re-select" his/her Primary Care Physician (PCP) when migrated into Highmark Healthy Kids?

- No, existing PCP's will carry forward with the member into their new group number.

- 7. Will members need to have a referral to see a specialist with Highmark Healthy Kids?**
  - Referrals will not be required to see a specialist.
- 8. What happens to approved authorizations?**
  - All authorizations approved prior to July 1 should carry over to Highmark Healthy Kids without any disruption.
- 9. Will members need to have his/her prescription rewritten when migrated into Highmark Healthy Kids?**
  - No, all approved prescriptions/prescription refills should be carried forward seamlessly.