



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

Department of Health Medicaid Program

May 22, 2020

Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)
Medicare Advantage Organizations (MAOs)
Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs)
Puerto Rico Government Health Plan – Vital Plan

CMS Waiver for the Provider Registration Portal (PEP) of the Puerto Rico Medicaid Program

On March 13, 2020, the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, issued a proclamation indicating that the outbreak of COVID-19 in the American nation constitutes a national emergency. Pursuant to section 1135 of the Social Security Act, the secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services invoked his authority to remove or modify certain requirements of titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Act as a result of the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Puerto Rico Medicaid Program, PRMP, requested flexibility to temporarily postpone certain requirements in the Provider Enrollment Portal, PEP. This application was approved and announced by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, CMS, on April 14, 2020.

Provider Registration

For providers who are not enrolled in Medicare or another State Medicaid Agency, CMS will postpone the following requirements as provided in 1135 (b) (1) and (b) (2) of the Act:

1. Application fee - 42 C.F.R. §455.460
2. Fingerprint-Based Criminal Background Checks - 42 C.F.R. §455.434
3. Visits to the service place- 42 C.F.R. §455.432

Puerto Rico may provisionally enroll providers for the duration of the public health emergency.

The section 1135 exemptions described above went into effect on March 1, 2020 and will end upon termination of the public health emergency or when determined by CMS.

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Page 2

Once the emergency is over, providers will receive an official communication notifying them of the steps to follow and the period of time they will have to comply with the requirements that were exempt so that their enrollment is not affected.

To answer any questions or require additional information, you can call the PRMP Provider Contact Center at 787-641-4200.

Cordially,



Luz E. Cruz-Romero
Executive Director

c: Hon. Lorenzo González-Feliciano
Secretary of Health

Jorge E. Galva-Rodríguez
Executive Director
Puerto Rico Health Insurance Administration (PRIA)