

Happy 2021!

We are looking forward to starting the new decade with you! Please read this Bulletin carefully for important information about what is new with LA HAP in 2021.

2021 income documentation grace period

When submitting LA HAP applications, please submit 2021 documentation for clients whenever possible. To allow for the transition into the new year, **the following forms of 2020 documentation will still be accepted through February 28th, 2020:**

- Tax documents received in 2020 reflecting 2019 tax year (W-2, 1040, etc.)
- Benefit award letters (SSDI, etc.)
- LIS application receipts

Marketplace income documentation due

Clients who enrolled in Marketplace coverage for the 2021 plan year may still have outstanding documentation requests from the Marketplace which may affect their tax credit. **Clients have 90 days from plan enrollment to provide updated documentation to the Marketplace in order to keep their tax credit.** The insurance invoice or healthcare.gov documentation will indicate whether or not someone owes documents to the Marketplace. Clients may submit updated information to the Marketplace directly or through their broker. In 2019, LA HAP lost over \$350,000 due to lost tax credits so we very much appreciate your cooperation in helping clients fulfill these documentation requests.

FPIG calculations

LA HAP aligns their income guidelines for assessing eligibility with Louisiana Medicaid guidelines. Medicaid does not typically adopt the most recent [Federal Poverty Income Guidelines](#) until March; therefore, LA HAP will continue to calculate income eligibility based on the 2020 FPIG until further notice from Medicaid.

Medicare General Enrollment/Advantage Open Enrollment

Medicare General Enrollment and Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment is underway from January 1st-March 31st. During this time, Medicare enrollees/eligibles have the following options:

- Enroll in Part A and/or B coverage to begin July 1st (if not automatically enrolled during the initial enrollment period)
- Switch from one Part C (Advantage) plan to another
- Drop a Part C plan and enroll in a Part D plan
- Drop a Part C plan and return to Original Medicare *(LA HAP clients may NOT do this)*

Clients cannot enroll in a new Part C or D plan during this time if they did not already have a Part C plan going into 2021. Clients with LIS are eligible to enroll in Part D coverage year-round.

If you have questions about this email, please contact LA HAP at 504-568-7474 or lahap@la.gov. DO NOT SEND NAMES OR CLIENT-IDENTIFYING INFORMATION, INCLUDING URN/UIN, VIA EMAIL.
