



Division of Specialized Care for Children

PROVIDER NOTICE

Date: Oct. 13, 2025

Dear Home Nursing Agency and Children's Community-Based Healthcare Center,

Thank you for your continued service to those enrolled in the Home Care Program. This notice has important reminders regarding the Medicaid responsibilities of the Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC) and its approved nursing agencies and Children's Community-Based Healthcare Centers (CCBHCs).

DSCC's Responsibilities as Medicaid Program Operating Agency

As the Home Care Program operating agency on behalf of the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS), DSCC must provide conflict-free care coordination to Home Care families, including options for nursing agency and CCBHC choice. **All DSCC staff must objectively provide families with information on all approved agencies to choose from and cannot provide subjective opinions on agency/CCBHC quality or pay rates.** DSCC staff partner with Home Care Program providers to improve quality and access to services, but do not market on behalf of any agency or CCBHC.

DSCC receives HFS decisions on Home Care Program eligibility and allocation via 2352 Nursing Approvals and is responsible for communicating these to agencies. **An active 2352 Nursing Approval validates medical eligibility for Home Care, not Medicaid eligibility. Approval for Home Care Program services comes from HFS but is contingent on participants maintaining active Illinois Medicaid enrollment per DHS requirements.** To avoid lapses in services, DSCC Benefits Specialists analyze monthly reports to identify participants scheduled for Medicaid redetermination, flagging those at risk of losing eligibility. DSCC notifies families at risk of losing Medicaid and encourages them to follow up with DHS. This process is dependent on DHS report accuracy, fluctuations in eligibility between DHS reports, and the family's ability to follow through. DSCC notifies the nursing agency if we are aware that coverage issues appear to jeopardize program eligibility, but DSCC does not receive direct notification from DHS if benefits lapse.

Nursing Agency Responsibilities as Medicaid Providers

As Medicaid providers, agencies are responsible for verifying active coverage prior to initiating services and regularly thereafter (at least weekly recommended). More information on how to verify eligibility can be found on the [HFS MEDI webpage](#). **Agencies failing to verify benefits will not receive claims reimbursement for services inappropriately rendered.** Per Section 101.3 of the Medicaid Provider Handbook,

providers are required to inform patients prior to providing services not covered. Failure to do so is the provider's financial responsibility. Agencies failing to verify benefits will not receive claims reimbursement for services inappropriately rendered.

Nursing Agency and CCBHC IMPACT Responsibilities

Illinois Medicaid requires all providers to remain fully enrolled in the IMPACT system. Without this, providers cannot receive payment for providing Home Care services per federal requirements. DSCC can only view IMPACT and cannot make changes on behalf of agencies. All DSCC-approved agencies and CCBHCs must be identified as a DSCC provider in IMPACT and maintain all up-to-date and compliant information, including:

- IDPH Home Nursing Agency license end date needs to be updated annually in IMPACT in addition to uploading a copy of their #400 license. Sending a copy of the license to DSCC is also necessary, but it does not fulfill this requirement.
- Updates with ownership and address changes.
- Ensuring the appropriate email is listed as **primary** to receive HFS IMPACT notices.
- Completion of revalidation as reviewed in [previous DSCC Provider Notices](#).
- Alignment of all data with [NPPES](#), including taxonomy code, mailing address, primary practice address, and NPI . (Multi-branch agencies must have a unique NPI and corresponding IMPACT enrollment for each branch.)
- Correct Specialty (Home Nursing Agency for DSCC-approved agencies and Children's Community Based Health Care Center for DSCC-approved CCBHCs).
- Dedicated IMPACT enrollment with a unique NPI for each appropriate Specialty (e.g., Nursing agencies also providing Medicaid Home Health services must have that Specialty under a different NPI and corresponding IMPACT enrollment).

Additional details are on the [DSCC IMPACT Information and Resources page](#) or at the [HFS IMPACT webpage](#), which also includes the [Facility, Agency, Organization Guide](#).

This notice will also be posted to DSCC's website at <https://dsc.uic.edu/home-care-provider-notices/>. We thank you for your continued service to our shared participants. If you have any questions, please contact your DSCC Nursing Agency Liaison.