

UCare achieves NCQA Health Equity Accreditation for Medicaid products

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 28, 2023 — The [National Committee for Quality Assurance \(NCQA\)](#)[®] has awarded [UCare's](#) Medicaid product line [Health Equity Accreditation](#). Health Equity Accreditation recognizes organizations like UCare that lead the market in providing culturally and linguistically sensitive services, and work to reduce health care disparities. The review focuses on the foundation of health equity work: building an internal culture that supports the organization's external health equity work; collecting data that help the organization create and offer language services and provider networks mindful of individuals' cultural and linguistic needs; identifying opportunities to reduce health inequities and improve care.



NCQA awards Accreditation to organizations that meet or exceed its rigorous requirements for health equity. During the Accreditation process, UCare was evaluated on how well it complies with standards in: organizational readiness; race/ethnicity, language, gender identity and sexual orientation; access and availability of language services; practitioner network cultural responsiveness; culturally and linguistically appropriate services programs; and reducing health care disparities.

In order to achieve this recognition, UCare partners with health care providers and community organizations to deliver the highest quality of care and support for our members and the community. UCare's health equity commitment and diligence is affirmed by meeting the requirements with a high degree of excellence. UCare has also maintained NCQA Health Plan Accreditation since 2014 and all UCare products are Accredited.

"This significant achievement demonstrates that UCare is a health plan dedicated to advancing health equity and inclusion for all of our members, especially those who

experience barriers and bias when accessing care,” said UCare Executive Vice President/Chief Medical Officer, Tenbit Emiru, MD, MBA, PhD. “The robust effort to earn this Accreditation underscores our core commitment to being an anti-racist organization. I am proud of the strong cross-departmental collaboration that resulted in a successful first-time submission.”

“The prevalence of racial and ethnic disparities has been a barrier to improving the quality of health care of many Americans for too long,” said NCQA President Margaret E. O’Kane. “Organizations achieving Health Equity Accreditation are leaders in closing this gap, and NCQA commends them for their dedication.”

About UCare

[UCare](#) is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 650,000 members throughout Minnesota and parts of western Wisconsin. UCare partners with health care providers, counties, and community organizations to create and deliver Medicare, Medicaid and Individual & Family health plans. All of its plans are National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) certified.

The health plan addresses health care disparities and care access issues through a broad array of community initiatives. UCare has received Top Workplaces honors from the Star Tribune for 13 consecutive years since the rankings began in 2010.

About NCQA

[NCQA](#) is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to improving health care quality. NCQA accredits and certifies a wide range of health care organizations. It also recognizes clinicians and practices in key areas of performance. NCQA’s Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS®) is the most widely used performance measurement tool in health care. NCQA’s website (ncqa.org) contains information to help consumers, employers and others make more-informed health care choices. NCQA can be found online at ncqa.org, on Twitter [@ncqa](https://twitter.com/ncqa), on Facebook at facebook.com/NCQA.org/ and on LinkedIn at linkedin.com/company/ncqa.

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