

Provider Bulletin

News and Information



May 28, 2020

UCare Provides Individual & Family and Medicare Members with COVID-19 Financial Relief

As COVID-19 continues to impact Minnesotans' safety, health and financial security, UCare is taking several actions* to make health care more accessible and affordable:

- Removing copays for Medicare primary care and mental health clinic services – including telehealth – **effective June 1** and during the COVID-19 public health emergency
- Continuing to waive copays, coinsurance and deductibles for COVID-19 tests and associated clinic, urgent care and emergency room visits
- Continuing to waive copays, coinsurance, deductibles for COVID-19 in-network, inpatient hospitalizations through September 2020
- Reducing member premium payments** by 20% in July and August 2020
- Supplying health care providers, group homes, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, social service organizations and vulnerable members with telehealth home kits, masks, healthy snack boxes and iPads – more detail [here](#)
- Offering \$25,000 grants to small provider groups and community clinics to build infrastructure during COVID-19

In the past few months, members' use of health care services and associated claims were lower than expected due to COVID-19. This enabled UCare to offer members financial relief and providers resources to ease the way for them to reconnect.

“We are concerned that our members – including older and more vulnerable members – are forgoing needed care at this time,” said UCare President and CEO Mark Traynor. “As a result, we are adjusting coverage and costs to support members' health. We want members to access essential care, and we are pleased to enhance providers' ability to provide that care.”

UCare has created a [COVID-19 Member Relief Q&A](#) for members that further outlines these measures. Additionally, UCare has a [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Information for Providers](#) web page to assist our provider partners in navigating this fluid situation. Please check the website often as the information is updated regularly.

**Member financial relief measures are in place during the duration of federal and state public health emergencies. If the public health emergencies end sooner, then benefits will revert back.*

***20% premium payment reductions also apply to separate dental plans for Medicare members in July and August 2020.*