

Older Adult Transition FAQ

Why is the Older Adult Expansion happening?

California Assembly Bill (AB) 133 (Budget Act of 2021) amended Welfare and Institutions Code section 14007.8 to expand eligibility for full scope Medi-Cal to individuals who are 50 years of age or older, and who do not have satisfactory immigration status or are unable to establish satisfactory immigration status as required by Welfare and Institutions Code section 14011.2, if otherwise eligible. This new coverage is referred to as the Older Adult Expansion.

What are the eligibility criteria for the Older Adult Expansion transition to full-scope Medi-Cal?

In accordance with Medi-Cal eligibility rules overall:

- *Age 50 years or older*
- *Household income under 138% of the Federal Poverty Level*
 - *For example, this would be an annual household income of \$36,570 for a household of four people.*
 - *Additional information about income requirements can be found [here](#).*

Will My Health LA (MHLA) participants who enroll in Emergency Medi-Cal by April 30, 2022 stay on MHLA?

No, if MHLA participants are enrolled in Emergency (or “restricted-scope”) Medi-Cal, they will be disenrolled from MHLA on May 1, 2022. We encourage Community Partners to assist MHLA participants who will be affected by the Older Adult Transition to sign up for Emergency Medi-Cal so they can transition to Full-Scope Medi-Cal on May 1.

How can eligible Californians enroll into full-scope Medi-Cal?

For individuals and families not currently enrolled in Medi-Cal, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has a step-by-step guide on how to apply for Medi-Cal benefits, which include links to paper and online applications in multiple languages. Medi-Cal applications can also be completed through DPSS at <https://dpss.lacounty.gov/> or through Covered California at www.coveredca.com. Find other organizations that can help with enrollment here: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/mch/choi/CHOIContractorListEngSp.pdf>

When will MHLA participants 50+ be disenrolled from MHLA?

First wave - Participants 50 years of age or older enrolled in Emergency Medi-Cal by April 30, 2022 will be disenrolled by May 1, 2022 from MHLA.

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Second wave – The remaining 50 years of age or older will be disenrolled by August 1, 2022. (We will allow a 3-month grace period for those who are not yet in Medi-Cal).

For anyone turning 50 after August 1, 2022, disenrollment will take place by the end of their birthday month. For example, if a participant is turning 50 years of age on August 12, 2022, they will be disenrolled from MHLA by August 31, 2022.

What happens to MHLA participants who are undergoing specialty care at a DHS facility and transition to Full-Scope Medi-Cal?

DHS will work with the MHLA Community Partners for those program participants currently receiving specialty care within LA County. DHS will not abandon those individuals currently receiving specialty care. However, when a participant has transitioned into a managed care plan, the CP will have to work with that plan to get the patient linked into specialty care with that network. More details are coming soon.

Will we still get paid for MHLA participants 50 and older?

Monthly Grant Funding will cease once the transitioning MHLA participants are disenrolled from the program.

Should CPs continue to provide Mental Health Prevention Services if participants have transition to Medi-Cal?

After a participant is disenrolled from MHLA, CPs can still choose to screen and provide prevention care services. However, there will not be any payment from DHS/DMH.

As long as individuals are enrolled in MHLA, CPs are still required to provide Mental Health Prevention Services.

Reminder that people on Medi-Cal can get mental health treatment services.

How is MHLA communicating the change to its participants?

The MHLA team is sending letters, texts and robocalls to program participants. We encourage CPs to also contact anyone eligible for the transition.

What will happen to individuals aged 26 to 49?

These individuals will remain in My Health LA.