

County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)

Medi-Cal Program Guide

Postpartum Benefits

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Revision Date:

March 1, 2022

Background:

Postpartum benefits provide Medi-Cal coverage to eligible individuals following childbirth or termination of pregnancy for any reason. Under provisions of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) passed by the U.S. Congress in 2021, California has opted to further extend postpartum care for currently eligible or newly eligible pregnant individuals as well as broaden the scope of coverage to full-scope benefits.

Purpose:

This section has been revised to incorporate changes regarding the extension of postpartum benefits.

Policy:

Effective April 1, 2022, the postpartum coverage period for beneficiaries receiving pregnancy-related and postpartum care services will expand from the current 60-day postpartum period to 12 months.

A. Eligibility Criteria

Any individual who has applied for and received Medi-Cal or Medi-Cal Access Program (MCAP) during their last month of pregnancy is eligible to postpartum benefits.

Note: Eligible individuals will remain eligible for full-scope pregnancy and postpartum care services regardless of income changes or immigration status during the entirety of the postpartum period.

B. Minor Consent

Beneficiaries who receive minor consent services in the month pregnancy ends are also eligible for postpartum services.

- For minor consent beneficiaries with a share of cost (SOC), they must meet the SOC in the month pregnancy ends to be eligible to postpartum services.
- Postpartum services for minor consent are covered under the 7N aid code. See Medi-Cal Program Guide (MPG) section 04.04.01F Aid Codes.

Human Services Specialists (HSS) must advise an eligible minor of the availability of postpartum benefits and inform them they will need to complete a monthly redetermination as outlined on **Processing Guide 37: Minor Consent Services**. See MPG Section 04.04.01 Minor Consent Services for guidance.

C. Period of Eligibility

The postpartum period begins with the last day of pregnancy and continues for 12 months. HSSs can accept verbal attestation regarding the last day of pregnancy unless otherwise questionable.

Program Impacts

Automation

Projects 59693 and 59694 were implemented into the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids Information Network (CalWIN) as part of release 68/68B which went into production on 02/21/2022.

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References:

[MEPM Article 4, Section 4V](#)

[ACWDL 94-63](#)

[MEDIL 21-09](#)

Sunset Date:

This policy will be reviewed for continuance on or by March 31, 2025.

Approval for Release:

AWL, 3-1-22

Rick Wanne, Director
Self-Sufficiency Services