



# PROVIDER ALERT

## Medicaid Expansion

November 1, 2019

**Alert Summary:** The Prior Authorization requirement will be lifted for 180 days for Skills Building for newly eligible members under Medicaid Expansion.

Dear Provider,

In November 2018, voters passed a proposition to expand Medicaid in Idaho. The goal of Medicaid Expansion is to provide Medicaid coverage to individuals with incomes up to 138% of the Federal Poverty Level. Optum Idaho is working with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) Division of Medicaid (Medicaid), State agencies, and other stakeholders to ensure a smooth implementation for all newly eligible Idahoans and Optum network providers.

### **Prior Authorization Exemption**

Skills Building/CBRS (Code H2017) will have prior authorization requirements lifted only for Medicaid Expansion members (as identified by rate code/group number in their eligibility information) for the first 180 days of 2020 (from January 1, 2020 to June 28, 2020).

This temporary exemption will allow newly eligible members under Expansion to access the care they need with limited interruption to their episode of treatment, and reduce administrative burden on providers working to intake new clients eligible under Expansion. Providers will follow Optum's normal prior authorization processes to request authorization for dates of service after June 28, 2020.

To verify if a member is eligible under Medicaid Expansion, look for group 22132 (MAGI Adult Basic) or group 22135 (MAGI Adult Enhanced) when verifying the member's Medicaid eligibility on Provider Express. If the member is in either "MAGI Adult Basic" or "MAGI Adult Enhanced", providers can submit claims directly to Optum for Skills Building/CBRS without a prior authorization in place for dates of service from January 1, 2020 to June 28, 2020. Prior authorization requirements will remain in place for all other prior authorized services rendered to members in the aforementioned groups. Prior authorization requirements will remain in place for Skills Building/CBRS for members that are in any group other than group numbers 22132 or 22135.

Optum will continue to provide updates on Medicaid Expansion as implementation progresses. For questions about Medicaid Expansion, please reach out to the Network team at [optum\\_idaho\\_network@optum.com](mailto:optum_idaho_network@optum.com). For regular updates about Medicaid Expansion, please visit [medicaidexpansion.idaho.gov](http://medicaidexpansion.idaho.gov).

Thank you,

The Optum Idaho Team