



Provider Announcement

April 15, 2022

Announcement Summary: This announcement confirms that no changes to the Idaho Behavioral Health Plan (IBHP) are necessary in response to the end of the state's COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) declaration.

Dear Provider,

Thank you for your continued resilience in your service to Medicaid members during the COVID-19 pandemic. In response to COVID-19, the federal government and the state of Idaho both declared PHEs, and numerous federal, state and IBHP rules became suspended or altered to allow the most safe and effective care possible during the pandemic.

On March 8, 2022, Idaho Gov. Brad Little announced the PHE declaration for the state of Idaho would end, effective April 15, 2022. The end of the state PHE will not result in any major interruptions or impacts to providers and does not require any actions from providers.

At this time, the federal government has not officially announced an end to its PHE declaration, but Optum Idaho will continue monitoring changes to the federal PHE. Providers will be given ample time – at least 60 days – to bring their operations into compliance with post-PHE requirements.

Because the federal PHE declaration resulted in regulatory impact on Optum Idaho's administration of the IBHP, Optum Idaho will work collaboratively with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to align all applicable guidance and transition operations to a post-pandemic environment.

Optum Idaho will provide additional information as it becomes available. For any questions or concerns, please contact your local Provider Relations Advocate or email Optum Idaho Provider Relations at optum_idaho_network@optum.com.

Thank you,

The Optum Idaho Team