

# ForwardHealth **UPDATE**

Wisconsin serving you

*Providing the Latest Health Care Benefit Information to ForwardHealth Members*



## **Some Copays for BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid Services Will Start Again on July 1, 2020**

Do you normally pay \$1–\$3 at the pharmacy or for health care visits?  
This payment is called a copay.

From January 1, 2020, to June 30, 2020, you did not have to pay copays for prescriptions or health care services while we made changes to the copay system.

Starting July 1, 2020, you may be asked to pay a copay for BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid Services.

## **There Will Be Limits to the Copay Amount You Pay Each Month**

If you have copays, federal law limits the amount you pay for services each month. This limit will be based on your income and who in your household has copays.

Before July 1, 2020, you will get a letter called “About Your Benefits” letting you know if you have a copay limit and how much it is. Your copay amount is based on the size of your family and your income. If

### **What Happened:**

From January 1, 2020, to June 30, 2020, you did not have to pay copays while we made changes to the copay system.

### **What Is Happening:**

Starting July 1, 2020, you may be asked to pay a copay for BadgerCare Plus and Medicaid services.

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The information provided in this ForwardHealth Update is published in accordance with Social Security Act §§ 1916 and 1916A.

you pay a monthly premium, your premium will also count toward your copay limit.

If your income is less than the amount listed below for your family size, you will not be charged any copays, and your limit will be \$0.

| FAMILY SIZE | MONTHLY INCOME |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1           | \$531          |
| 2           | \$781          |
| 3           | \$905          |
| 4           | \$1,091        |
| 5           | \$1,278        |
| 6           | \$1,465        |

Your monthly copay limit will stay the same unless you have a change, such as a change in income or the number of people in your home.

If you reach your copay limit before the end of the month, we will send you a letter telling you the date you reached your limit. After you reach your limit, you will not have to pay copays the rest of the month after the date listed. You may still have a copay for any prescriptions you filled before the date listed in the letter.

**We will track your copay limits, copays, and premiums. You do not have to take any action unless you disagree with your copay limit amount.**

## Who Does Not Have a Copay Limit?

If you are enrolled in the Medicaid Purchase Plan or SeniorCare, you do not have copay limits. Other limits may apply to how much you pay for certain services.

## \$8 Emergency Room Copay for Nonemergency Visits

If you are 19–64, are not pregnant, and do not have dependent children living in the home, you will have to pay an \$8 copay for every visit to the emergency room that is not an emergency. The doctor will decide if your visit is an emergency.

You will **not** have to pay a copay for using the emergency room for an emergency. **Federal law states that emergency rooms are required to see you in the case of an emergency.**

BadgerCare Plus providers will begin collecting the \$8 emergency room copay for nonemergency visits on and after July 1, 2020. The \$8 emergency room copay for nonemergency visits will count toward the monthly copay limit.

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## Groups Without Copays: No More Copays for Children and Former Foster Care Youth

Starting July 1, 2020, children age 18 and younger will not have copays for prescriptions or health care services. Also, any youth who were in foster care on or before their 18th birthday and who enroll in BadgerCare Plus will not have copays until their 26th birthday.

If your child is enrolled in the Children's Long-Term Support Waiver Program, they may stay in the program until they turn 21. Once your child turns 19, they may have copays.

The people in these groups will not have copays:

- Children in foster care
- Children in adoption assistance
- Children in the Katie Beckett program
- American Indians or Alaska Natives of any age or income level who get or have gotten health items or services from an American Indian health care provider or by referral under contract health services
- People getting hospice care
- Nursing home residents
- Members enrolled in Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid
- Members who enroll by Express Enrollment

## Other Costs

The following costs are not considered copays, and you will continue to pay these if they apply to you:

- Monthly costs while living in a nursing home
- Costs for services you get through Family Care or other programs that allow someone to live and care for you in your home

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**English:** For help to translate or understand this, please call **800-362-3002** (TTY).

**Spanish:** Si necesita ayuda para traducir o entender este texto, por favor llame al teléfono **800-362-3002** (TTY).

**Russian:** Если вам не всё понятно в этом документе, позвоните по телефону **800-362-3002** (TTY).

**Hmong:** Yog xav tau kev pab txhais cov ntaub ntawv no kom koj totaub, hu rau **800-362-3002** (TTY).

**Laotian:** ເພື່ອຊ່ວຍໃນການແປ ຫລື ເຂົ້າໃຈເນື້ອຫາໃນນີ້, ກະລຸນາໂທຣະສັບຫາ **800-362-3002** (TTY).

Wisconsin Medicaid, BadgerCare Plus, SeniorCare, and Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program are administered by the Division of Medicaid Services within the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The Wisconsin AIDS Drug Assistance Program and the Wisconsin Well Woman Program are administered by the Division of Public Health within DHS.

For questions, call Member Services at 800-362-3002.