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**State of Wisconsin
Governor Scott Walker**

**TO: Income Maintenance Supervisors
Income Maintenance Lead Workers
Income Maintenance Staff
W-2 Agencies
Workforce Development Boards
Job Center Leads and Managers
Training Staff
Child Care Coordinators**

FROM: Rich Albertoni, Director
Bureau of Enrollment Policy & Systems
Division of Health Care Access and Accountability

BEPS/DFS OPERATIONS MEMO					
No: 11-11					
DATE: 03/18/2011					
FS	<input type="checkbox"/>	MA	<input type="checkbox"/>	BC+	<input type="checkbox"/>
SC	<input type="checkbox"/>	CTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	FSET	<input type="checkbox"/>
BC+ Basic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BC+ CORE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
CC	<input type="checkbox"/>	W-2	<input type="checkbox"/>	EA	<input type="checkbox"/>
CF	<input type="checkbox"/>	JAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	JC	<input type="checkbox"/>
RAP	<input type="checkbox"/>	WIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/> *
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SUBJECT: BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan Enrollment Changes

CROSS REFERENCE: Operations Memos 10-41, 10-53, 10-81
BadgerCare Plus Handbook Chapter 45

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 19, 2011

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memo is to announce several changes to BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan enrollment:

- o New requests for enrollment in the Basic Plan will no longer be accepted, effective March 19, 2011.
- o The process outlined in Operations Memos 10-53 and 10-81 to allow Basic Plan members with certain medical conditions to bypass the Core Plan Waitlist and apply for the Core Plan will be discontinued as of March 19, 2011.
- o The Basic Plan premium will increase to \$200 per month with the premium due May 5th, 2011 for June coverage.
- o The option to make advanced premium payments at a discounted rate is no longer available.

BACKGROUND:

The BadgerCare Plus Basic Plan was implemented July 1, 2010 as a self-funded plan intended to provide BadgerCare Plus Waitlist members with access to limited healthcare benefits until space becomes available in the Core Plan. Wisconsin Statute 49.67 states that administrative costs and the costs of benefits provided under the Basic Plan must be paid by premiums charged to members; if needed, the cost of program benefits may be supplemented from a grant received from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Revenue collected through premium payments and funds available through the HRSA grant are not sufficient to cover the cost of covered benefits. DHS has therefore determined that new enrollment in the Basic Plan needs to be closed and premiums for current members need to be increased

POLICY UPDATE:ENROLLMENT

Effective March 19, 2011, requests to enroll in the Basic Plan will be denied because new enrollment in the program has been closed. However, if premium payments received by mail to newly enroll in the Basic Plan are postmarked on or before March 18, 2011, the individual can enroll if all eligibility requirements are met.

If a member loses Basic Plan coverage for any reason, such as non-payment of premium, eligibility for other health care coverage, failure to supply verification, etc., s/he will not be allowed to re-enroll.

MEDICAL BYPASS

Although DHS has federal authority to allow Basic Plan members with certain medical conditions to bypass the Core Plan waitlist and apply for coverage, the DHS is not required to do so. Any requests for a Core Plan Waitlist Bypass (F-00292) received by the Enrollment Services Center prior to March 19, 2011 will be processed. However, requests for a Core Plan Waitlist medical bypass received on or after March 19, 2011 will not be considered.

PREMIUMS

The premium for Basic Plan coverage is increasing to \$200, effective with the premium due May 5th for June benefits. Members will be notified of the increase with the premium coupon that will be sent in April. Members who made advanced payments will not be required to pay an increased amount until the months for which they have prepaid have ended.

In addition, the option to make advanced premium payments at a discounted rate is no longer available, effective March 19, 2011.

ACCESS and CARES:

System changes have been made to prevent individuals from being able to request Basic Plan coverage through ACCESS.

CONTACTS:

BEPS CARES Information & Problem Resolution Center

*Program Categories – FS – FoodShare, MA – Medicaid, BC+ – BadgerCare Plus, SC – Senior Care, CTS – Caretaker Supplement, CC – Child Care, W-2 – Wisconsin Works, FSET – FoodShare Employment and Training, BC+ Core – BadgerCare Plus Core, CF – Children First, EA – Emergency Assistance, JAL – Job Access Loan, JC - Job Center Programs, RAP – Refugee Assistance Program, WIA – Workforce Investment Act, Other EP – Other Employment Programs.

DHS/DHCAA/BEPS/