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UCare 2026 updates

On November 17, UCare announced a definitive agreement with Medica for Medica to acquire certain UCare contracts and assets, including UCare's 2026 Medicaid programs:

- **Prepaid Medical Assistance Program (PMAP)**
 - Service area includes 33 counties.
 - New enrollment is frozen.
 - Exception: Newborns born to mothers who are enrolled in UCare may enroll.
- **MinnesotaCare**
 - Service area includes 33 counties
 - New enrollment is frozen in Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Scott and Washington.
 - Exception: Newborns born to mothers who are enrolled in UCare may enroll or if another household member is enrolled in UCare.
- **MSC+ (Minnesota Senior Care Plus)**
 - Service area includes 66 counties with no changes.
 - Coverage continues in 2026.
- **UCare Connect (SNBC non-integrated)**
 - Service area includes 67 counties
 - New enrollment is frozen in counties where there is another option.
 - Exception:
 - Members redetermined within 90 days of losing Medical Assistance coverage, or
 - Members defaulted into UCare Connect for January 2026 because UCare is no longer offering UCare Connect + Medicare (SNBC integrated).

Enrollment availability by county and product grid is available here:

[U15452_2026EnrollmentAreaChart](#).

UCare 2026 updates continued

UCare's dual special needs plans (D-SNP)

After working closely with the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS), the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), and Medica, we were unable to align the regulatory and service-area requirements needed to continue UCare's dual special needs plans (D-SNP) under the new structure.

As a result, UCare will no longer offer Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) or UCare Connect + Medicare (integrated SNBC) in any county in 2026.

If these members do not select a different Medicare plan for 2026 they will move to:

- UCare MSC+ or UCare Connect (non-integrated) for Medicaid
- Original Medicare (Parts A and B) for Medicare
- Will be assigned a Medicare Part D plan (Humana Basic Rx Plan through Humana Insurance Company)

We understand this transition is unexpected. We are partnering with DHS and CMS to develop required member communications to support a smooth experience and outline how members can choose another plan available in their county. We anticipate member letters to reach members beginning the week of December 15.

More information is available at: [Plan Closures | Dual Eligible Medicare and Medical Assistance \(Medicaid\) | UCare](#)

Provider FAQs are available here: [Provider FAQ: UCare Product Changes](#)

Medica has a toll-free number for providers or members to call with questions related to MSHO or coverage options: 1-888-925-0747.

If you or your teams have questions, please reach out to UCare's County Relations team at UCareCountyRelations@UCare.org. We welcome the opportunity to connect and support your work with impacted members.

Medical Assistance (Medicaid) 2026 changes

Prepaid Medical Assistance Program (PMAP), MinnesotaCare and UCare Connect members will be eligible for our new fitness benefit, One Pass Select® fitness and well-being membership. Subscription cost varies by membership level.

Effective 1/1/26, UCare's Community Education program will be discontinued.

The Minnesota Legislature and Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) have made the following updates affecting all Medical Assistance products. These updates reflect DHS alignment across all plans and ensure consistent statewide standards.

- **Audio-only telehealth** is extended through July 1, 2027 for scheduled appointments and when standards of care can be met through audio-only communication, unless it is a mental health or substance use disorder emergency or crisis situation initiated by the member.
- **Home births** are covered for low-risk members as determined by the treating provider who meets the criteria and when a plan of care is completed.
- **Physical therapy:** Limited to fourteen (14) visits per year unless prior authorization is received.
- **Occupational therapy:** Limited to twenty-four (24) visits per year unless prior authorization is received.
- **Chiropractic services** are now limited to members on PMAP and MinnesotaCare who are under the age of 21. Coverage is limited to one annual evaluation and 24 visits per year unless prior authorization is received.
- **Housing stabilization support services** are no longer covered as of November 1, 2025.



UCare's Mobile Dental Clinic

UCare's Mobile Dental Clinic serves members across Minnesota. The current schedule and locations are available [here](#).

January 5 – 9

Eden Prairie
Immanuel Lutheran Church
16515 Luther Way

January 13 – 16

Blaine
Christ Lutheran Church
641 89th Ave NE

January 20 – 23

Rochester
Olmsted County Public Health
2100 Campus Drive SE

January 26 – 30

Roseville
Anpétu Téča Education Center
1910 County Road B