

# Provider Bulletin

## News and Information



July 9, 2025

### 2025 UCare enrollment changes for Medical Assistance

At the beginning of 2025, UCare and the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) agreed to temporarily freeze UCare's new enrollment in Prepaid Medical Assistance Program (PMAP) in all counties except Hennepin County to mitigate financial losses and constraints. The freeze was expected to result in gradual enrollment losses throughout 2025. However, members continue to enroll at higher rates than anticipated and medical expenses continue to increase significantly. As a result, UCare and DHS agreed to further freeze enrollment in PMAP, MinnesotaCare and Special Needs BasicCare (SNBC) UCare Connect, as well as reduce UCare's service area for PMAP and MinnesotaCare beginning Sept. 1, 2025.

#### July 1, 2025: Expanded enrollment freeze\*

- **PMAP** - Effective July 1, 2025, UCare added Hennepin County to the temporary enrollment freeze. This means there is now a freeze for all enrollment for PMAP in counties UCare serves except for newborns whose parents are UCare members.
- **MinnesotaCare** - Effective July 1, 2025, UCare began freezing enrollment for MinnesotaCare in counties where there are two non-UCare plan choices. There is an exception for newly eligible family members of UCare enrollees, including newborns. The enrollment freeze is in place for Anoka, Benton, Carver, Chisago, Crow Wing, Dakota, Hennepin, Pennington, Ramsey, Roseau, St. Louis, Scott, Sherburne, Stearns, Wadena, Washington and Wright counties.
- **SNBC (UCare Connect only)** - Effective July 1, 2025, UCare began freezing enrollments for all counties it serves for non-integrated SNBC (UCare Connect).

The enrollment freeze is anticipated to last through the remainder of 2025, at which time UCare and DHS will evaluate if the freeze needs to continue into 2026.

\*An enrollment freeze means UCare will not accept new enrollees in the county, except as noted.

#### Sept. 1, 2025: Service area reductions

Beginning Sept. 1, 2025, until the next DHS procurement is effective, UCare will exit the following counties for PMAP and MinnesotaCare: Benton, Chisago, Crow Wing, Pennington, Ramsey, Roseau, St. Louis, Sherburne, Stearns, Wadena and Wright. There are **no** 2025 service area changes or enrollment freezes to UCare's integrated-SNBC (UCare Connect + Medicare), UCare's Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) or Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+).

In July, DHS started sending a Special Enrollment Period notice with information about other health plans available to current UCare members in impacted counties. Enrollees may choose a different plan, or DHS will default them to a plan if no choice is elected.

Enrollees impacted by the service area reduction will have no gap in Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare coverage. They will remain UCare members through Aug. 31, 2025, and then transition to the selected plan on Sept. 1, 2025. UCare will work closely with the state, counties and selected plans to ensure a smooth transition for members. Providers do not have to take any action regarding continuity of care for impacted members. Information about a member's prescriptions, authorization and special services will be shared with the new plan through DHS.

Although UCare will be serving fewer enrollees in 2025, the provider network will remain the same. UCare is not changing the network of providers in these counties. UCare remains in these counties for other products.

UCare remains deeply committed to Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare. These decisions are about strengthening UCare's position for the long haul to best serve members, providers and community partners, not exiting the market. UCare will have an opportunity to re-enter these counties during the next DHS procurement and looks forward to fully offering these products again in the future.

## **More information**

The following information and resources are available to assist providers and enrollees who are impacted by the changes:

- Providers - Check MN-ITS for information from DHS, as well as the latest enrollment data for PMAP, MinnesotaCare and Connect members.
- PMAP members - Refer to the Health Plan Choice letter from DHS or contact county of residence with questions.
- MinnesotaCare members - Call the number on the Health Plan Choice letter from DHS with questions.
- Health plan provider directories and other resources are available at: <https://mn.gov/dhs/health-plan-selection/>.