

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance



Office of the Senior Deputy Director and Medicaid Director

MDL # 26-03

MEDICAID DIRECTOR LETTER

TO: All Interested Parties

DATE: September 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Health Care Alliance Program Changes Effective October 1, 2026

Purpose

The purpose of this Medicaid Director Letter is to inform all stakeholders of changes affecting enrollment and covered health benefits for the DC Health Care Alliance Program (Alliance) for adults, effective October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027. All changes will be implemented in accordance with the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Support Act of 2026 (Bill 26-661). Please note, there are no changes to the Alliance program for children or enrollees of the Children and Adolescent Supplemental Income Program (CASSIP).

A. Minimum Age for Newly Applying Adults from October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027

Between October 1, 2026, and September 30, 2027, otherwise eligible adults aged 21 and older **may** apply for enrollment in the Alliance program.

B. Alliance Covered Benefits from October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027

Covered Services for Adult Alliance Enrollees	Non-Covered Services for Adult Alliance Enrollees
Home Health	Cell and Gene Therapy
Short Term Skilled Nursing Facility	Hospice
Podiatry	Cosmetic Procedures and/or Medications
Vision	Non-Emergency Medical Transportation
Dental	Organ Transplantation
Inpatient Hospital	Long Term Care Services
Outpatient Care	
Laboratory Services	
Radiology Services	
Prescription Drugs	
Durable Medical Equipment	

Emergency Transportation	
Hearing	

C. Adult (21+) Income Eligibility Requirement for Alliance from October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027

The income eligibility requirements for Alliance adults **remain** at 133% of the Federal Poverty Limit (FPL), plus a 5% income disregard. There is **no change** to the current adult income requirements for Alliance eligibility. To be eligible for Alliance, adults (21+) must have a household income at or below 133% FPL (+5% disregard).

D. Service Delivery Mechanism from October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027

There is **no change** to the service delivery mechanism for the Alliance program; the method of service delivery **remains** Fee-for-Service.

Contact

For questions, please contact us via email at Medicaid.renewal@dc.gov.

Sincerely,



Melisa Byrd
Senior Deputy Director and Medicaid Director

Cc: DC Behavioral Health Association
DC Dental Society
DC Coalition of Disability Service Providers
DC Health Care Association
DC Home Health Association
DC Hospital Association
DC Primary Care Association
Medical Society of the District of Columbia