GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance

Office of the Senior Deputy Director and Medicaid Director **Transmittal 26-24**

TO: DC Medicaid Providers

FROM: Melisa Byrd
Senior Deputy Director and Medicaid Director M.B.

DATE: **September 30, 2026**

SUBJECT: **Removal of Cost-Sharing in Fee-For-Service Medicaid for Prescription Drugs and Eyeglasses**

Purpose
The purpose of this transmittal is to notify all DC Medicaid providers that the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medicaid program will no longer require cost-sharing for prescription drugs or eyeglasses beginning on October 1, 2026.

Details
DHCF has historically charged certain beneficiaries in FFS Medicaid a $1.00 copay for prescription drugs and a $2.00 copay for eyeglasses. DHCF is eliminating these copays beginning on October 1, 2026. All claims adjudication systems have been updated to ensure that beneficiaries will not be charged a copay, and that all providers are reimbursed for the full claim amount. Additionally, all provider billing manuals will be updated to reflect this change.

Contact
If you have questions regarding the removal of copays for prescription drugs you can reach out to:

- Prime Therapeutics Pharmacy Help Desk at (800) 273-4962
- DHCF Pharmacy Team:
  - Charlene Fairfax, RPh, Senior Pharmacist, Division of Clinicians, Pharmacy, and Acute Provider Services (CPAPS), Office of the Chief Medical Officer (OCMO), DHCF, at Charlene.Fairfax@dc.gov or (202) 442-9076;
  - Tayiana Reed, PharmD, RPh, Pharmacist, CPAPS, OCMO, DHCF at Tayiana.Reed1@dc.gov or (202) 478-1415
  - Gidey Amare, PharmD, RPh, Pharmacist, CPAPS, OCMO, DHCF at gidey.amare@dc.gov or (202) 442-5952.

If you have questions regarding the removal of copays for eyeglasses you can reach out to:

- Cavella Bishop, Program Manager, CPAPS, OCMO, DHCF at cavella.bishop@dc.gov or (202) 724-8936

Thank you for your cooperation. We appreciate the professional care and service that you provide to all District of Columbia FFS Medicaid beneficiaries.

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