

Adoption Assistance and Permanency Care Assistance

Introduction & Overview

- People in the Adoption Assistance or Permanency Care Assistance (AAPCA) programs will begin getting their Medicaid services through managed care beginning Sept. 1, 2017.
- People who get AAPCA services will still have the same Medicaid benefits under managed care as they do now.

What is AAPCA?

The **Adoption Assistance** program provides help for certain children who are adopted from foster care.

The **Permanency Care Assistance** program gives financial support to family members who provide a permanent home to children who were in foster care but could not be reunited with their parents. Permanency care assistance is provided to persons who assume managing conservatorship of a child who was previously in the temporary or permanent managing conservatorship of DFPS.

Important Facts:

DFPS (Department of Family Protective Services) will remain responsible for all of the cash payments to AA/PCA recipients.

Aetna Better Health of Texas will only be responsible for Medicaid delivery to member recipients.

Pharmacy benefits will remain the same for all programs.

Existing Authorizations:

- Approved and active prior authorizations for covered services will be forwarded to the STAR or STAR Kids health plans prior to Sept. 1, 2017.
- These prior authorizations are subject to the ongoing care requirements.
- Providers don't need to resubmit authorization requests to the health plans if an authorization is already in place.

Telephonic Screenings:

Aetna Better Health of Texas will conduct an initial telephonic Member screening for all new AA and PCA Members. The telephonic screening will be used to help the health plan prioritize which Members require the most immediate attention for Service Management (Care Management)/Service Coordination and Service (Care) Plan development.

STAR Service Management (Care Management):

Aetna Better Health of Texas will provide the following additional oversight related to service management, continuity of care, medical history sharing and psychotropic drug utilization review by:

- Facilitating development of a service plan;
- Coordinating services among a member's primary care provider, specialty providers and non-medical providers;
- Ensuring members have access to, and appropriately utilize medically necessary covered services, and other services and supports.

STAR Kids Service Coordination

Aetna Better Health of Texas will provide additional oversight related to service coordination, continuity of care, medical history sharing and psychotropic drug utilization review.

- Specialized care service provided by health plan nurses and other professionals with necessary skills to coordinate care, including:
- Identification of needs, such as, physical health, mental health, long-term services and supports
- Development of a person-centered service plan to address identified needs
- Making sure clients get the services they need when they need them
- Attention to addressing members' unique needs.
- Coordinating with other services when necessary

Additional information: www.hhs.texas.gov/AAPCA

You can call us with questions toll-free at **1-800-248-7767** (STAR Bexar) or **1-800-306-8612** (STAR Tarrant) (STAR Kids 844-787-5437)