

FAMIS Coverage for Pregnant Individuals

Responses to Questions from 6/21 Stakeholder Meeting

More individuals are now eligible for prenatal and postpartum coverage! Individuals now do not need to meet immigration status rules, provide immigration documents or have a Social Security number to be eligible for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage.

The following are responses to questions asked during the FAMIS Prenatal Coverage stakeholder webinar held on June 21.

When do the benefits start?

Benefits for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage begin on July 1, 2021.

Who is eligible for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage?

To be eligible for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage you must:

- Provide the estimated date of your delivery and how many children you are expecting
- Live in Virginia
- Meet income rules
- Be uninsured

What are the benefits?

Comprehensive medical coverage, including, but not limited to:

- Doctor visits (prenatal checkups plus general and specialty care for other health concerns)
- Prescription medication
- Prenatal screening and testing
- Your hospital stay for the birth
- Dental benefits
- Behavioral health benefits, such as therapy and treatment for depression or anxiety, or help to quit smoking or using alcohol or other drugs

What is the income limit for eligibility for this group?

The income ceiling is the same as guidelines for FAMIS MOMS: [200% of the Federal Poverty Limit \(FPL\) plus the 5% disregard.](#)

What immigration or citizenship documentation is required for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage?

There is no requirement to provide immigration or citizenship documentation for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage.

Are undocumented immigrants eligible for benefits? What about DACA recipients (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or Dreamers)?

Undocumented immigrants, including DACA recipients, who are pregnant are eligible to receive FAMIS Prenatal Coverage if they meet all other eligibility criteria.

Will Social Security numbers be required for the newborn to complete the enrollment?

If the pregnant individual has the application for SSN, they can provide that information. However, it is not required for enrollment. Social services workers will perform a check for SSN 90 days post enrollment. If applicants do not furnish the information initially, they must provide the SSN before/during the child's first renewal.

Will individuals need to verify that they do not have "lawfully residing" status to ensure they are put in the correct category?

Social services workers use the attestation of citizenship/immigration status on the application to determine what verifications are needed, if any. If the information on the application raises questions, the worker may reach out for more information, but verification of non-lawful status is not required – a verbal or written attestation of no lawful immigration status is sufficient.

Are products and services, such as electric breast pumps, doulas and postpartum lactation follow-up visits, covered?

Enrollees receive all services covered in the FAMIS MOMS benefit package, including these types of products and services, to the extent that they are able to use the benefit in the 60 days postpartum. (As of July 1, 2021, the doula benefit is in development but is not yet available for Medicaid or FAMIS MOMS members.)

Does this cover care after a miscarriage?

Yes. FAMIS Prenatal Coverage, like other Medicaid and FAMIS MOMS coverage for pregnant individuals, is available for the member until the 60th day after a pregnancy ends. This includes pregnancies that do not end with a live birth, so all covered services in the FAMIS MOMS benefit package would be available to individuals for the duration of their enrollment in FAMIS Prenatal—through the end of the month in which the 60th day falls.

Does this coverage include contraception supply, including IUDs?

FAMIS Prenatal enrollees receive all services and benefits covered in the FAMIS MOMS benefit package, including contraceptives, to the extent that they are able to use the benefit in the 60 days postpartum.

Will transportation be covered?

FAMIS Prenatal enrollees receive all services and benefits covered in the FAMIS MOMS benefit package, including non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) and emergency/ambulance transportation.

Is FAMIS Prenatal Coverage retroactive?

There is no retroactive coverage for FAMIS, FAMIS MOMS or FAMIS Prenatal Coverage members.

Occasionally a patient will have a sonogram prior to their first prenatal visit. Would this be covered?

When individuals apply, their coverage would be effective the first of the month in which they apply. If the sonogram occurs in that same month, it would be covered.

What will be the newborn's aid category?

This depends on the newborn's eligibility, which is based on current information on the case and additional information requested (if needed).

If newborns are not entered as deemed newborns, are they placed in FAMIS?

The newborn's eligibility must be determined based on current information on the case and additional information requested (if needed). The newborn may be eligible for Medicaid or FAMIS.

Will providers still use the VA web portal to add newborns?

The processes for reporting the birth of a child to a Medicaid/FAMIS member will not change including hospitals using the e213 process through MMIS (web portal), as well as the mother reporting the birth to Cover Virginia (1-855-242-8282) or their local Department of Social Services.

Does the CARES Act Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirement apply to this population? (Note: The CARES Act is federal legislation passed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.)

No, the CARES Act MOE does not apply to this population beyond the normal coverage period. Coverage under FAMIS Prenatal will end on the last day of the month in which the 60th day postpartum falls.

How can you apply?

You can apply online at www.commonhelp.virginia.gov; by phone at 1-855-242-8282 (TDD: 1-888-221-1590); or by mailing, dropping off, or faxing a paper application to your local Department of Social Services. ([Find your local DSS location here.](#)) For general information about FAMIS Prenatal Coverage, click [here](#).

What is the best way for a non-English speaker with limited Internet access or low digital literacy to apply?

Over the phone at 1-855-242-8282. We have translation services available.