

	<b>GEORGIA DIVISION OF FAMILY AND CHILDREN SERVICES MEDICAID POLICY MANUAL</b>			
	<b>Chapter:</b>	<b>2700</b>	<b>Effective Date:</b>	<b>December 2022</b>
	<b>Policy Title:</b>	<b>Continuous Coverage For Pregnant Women</b>		
<b>Policy Number:</b>	<b>2720</b>	<b>Previous Policy Update:</b>	<b>MT 65</b>	

## REQUIREMENTS

A pregnant woman, adult or minor, who becomes or would otherwise become ineligible for any Medicaid Class of Assistance (COA) because of a change of an Assistance Unit (AU) or Budget Group (BG) member remains eligible for Medicaid for the remainder of her pregnancy and through the 12- month extended postpartum period.

**NOTE:** See Section 2184 Pregnant Women for the eligibility criteria for the 12-month extended postpartum period.

## BASIC CONSIDERATIONS

Continuous coverage for a pregnant woman applies in the following situations:

- a pregnant woman who becomes ineligible for SSI because of an increase in income or resources
- a pregnant woman who becomes ineligible for any Medicaid COA because of a change such as an increase in net taxable income, sanctioned for failing to cooperate with DCSS, etc.

**NOTE:** For Women’s Health Medicaid if she becomes pregnant and is eligible for Pregnant Woman Medicaid, a CMD to Pregnant Woman Medicaid must be completed. After her continuous coverage period expires, complete a CMD to Parent/Caretaker with Child(ren) Medicaid. If ineligible for Parent/Caretaker with Child(ren), CMD back to WHM if she is still eligible. Her child(ren) will be a deemed newborn(s). If a PeachCare for Kids® enrollee becomes pregnant, a CMD to Pregnant Woman Medicaid must be completed.

For continuous coverage purposes, an increase in net taxable income includes any one of the following:

- an increase in the AU’s or BG’s taxable income
- a decrease or loss of MAGI deductions
- a decrease in the number of individuals included in the AU and/or BG per stated tax status

**BASIC CONSIDERATIONS (cont.)**

- the addition to the AU and/or BG of an individual with taxable income per stated tax status
- expiration of the MN budget period if the pregnant woman was Medicaid eligible or would have been if her pregnancy was known
- any other change that results in excess net taxable income.

Continuous coverage for a pregnant woman includes reinstatement of Medicaid if a voluntary closure or other termination has occurred, whether or not the pregnancy was known at the time of termination.

A pregnant woman who is approved for EMA is not automatically eligible for the 12-month extended postpartum period. She may, however, qualify for additional days of EMA **during** the 12-month extended postpartum period if she receives pregnancy-related emergency treatment. Refer to Section [2184](#), Pregnant Women.

**PROCEDURES**

Use the following procedures to establish continuous coverage eligibility for a pregnant woman:

**Step 1** Determine that the pregnant woman would otherwise be ineligible to continue Medicaid under the current COA because of an increase in AU/BG net taxable income or other change.

**or**

Determine that a pregnant woman is ineligible for SSI because of an increase in income or resources. The following sources may be used to verify SSI ineligibility:

- SSI notification letter
- State Data Exchange (SDX)
- other verification from the Social Security Administration
- GAMMIS

**Step 2** Establish that the woman was pregnant during the last month of Medicaid eligibility and that her pregnancy has terminated.

**Step 3** Determine that the pregnant woman met non-financial eligibility requirements during the last month of eligibility for the COA under which Medicaid is being or would be terminated.

**PROCEDURES (cont.)**

**Step 4** Continue Pregnant Woman coverage or approve Pregnant Woman if the pregnant woman is/was not actively receiving Medicaid under another COA.

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

A pregnant woman who is correctly determined Medicaid eligible remains financially eligible from the effective month of approval through the end of the 12-month extended postpartum period, regardless of changes in the BG income.

Pregnant individuals (including Individuals in their postpartum period) can be terminated for the following reasons:

- Voluntary termination
- Moves out of state
- Invalidly enrolled
- Death

Note: Gaining SSI is not an allowable reason for termination during the 12-month extended postpartum period.

If a pregnant individual is actively enrolled in PeachCare for Kids® at delivery/termination of pregnancy, the individual must remain eligible in PeachCare for Kids® through the last day of the month in which the 12-month extended postpartum period ends regardless of any changes in circumstances that may affect eligibility (aging out, income, household composition, non-payment of premium or becoming Medicaid/SSI eligible).