

201 South Grand Avenue East
Springfield, Illinois 62763-0002

Telephone: (217) 782-1200
TTY: (800) 526-5812

Information for Clients on Senate Bill 2840

Save Medicaid Access and Resources Together Act (SMART Act)

The General Assembly and Governor have agreed to cut spending for the Medicaid and All Kids programs by about 10% beginning July 1, 2012.

These cuts are necessary to save the program because the state has run out of money to pay for all of it.

Most people who are eligible now will still be covered. Some adults will lose benefits. Anyone in a program that is ending will get a notice addressed to them individually. These include:

- Adults enrolled in Illinois Cares Rx
- Adults enrolled in FamilyCare Share, one of the FamilyCare Premium levels or FamilyCare Rebate – for income levels see <http://www.familycareillinois.com/income.html>
- Adults living in Chicago enrolled in General Assistance medical

No children will lose eligibility because of Senate Bill 2840.

Dental care for adults will be limited to only care needed to treat an emergency condition.

Adults will have slightly higher co-payments for prescription drugs, office visits, using a hospital emergency room when they don't have an emergency and some other services.

Some services will require prior approval. For example, prior approval will be required for a person to get more than four prescriptions in a month.

Hospitals, nursing homes, pharmacies and other medical providers will be paid a little less by the state. Doctors, dentists and clinics will be paid the same as this year.

Some information about the cuts is available now on the Department's website at <http://www2.illinois.gov/hfs/agency/Pages/Budget.aspx>. Check back because we will add more details in the next weeks.