



PO Box 27049 • Albuquerque, NM 87125-7049
Toll Free 1-800-432-0750 • Fax 505-816-5671
www.nmmip.org

"When no one else will help, we're there."

October 30, 2015

Dear Policyholder:

This is an important announcement that concerns:

- **Recertification Process Deferred**
- **Transition Activities to Continue**
- **2016 Premium Rates**
- **Centennial Care**
- **Medicare Carve-Out Plan**
- **Deductible Changes**
- **Low Income Premium Program**
- **Address/Phone/Email Changes and Updates**
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Since 1987, the New Mexico Medical Insurance Pool (Pool) has been the state's health insurance "safety net." The Pool has existed to solve many of the concerns that have now been addressed by the Affordable Care Act. Now, you have many more choices for health insurance coverage. In the last two years, the Pool's enrollment has decreased from over 10,500 to less than 3,200, due to individuals obtaining coverage through Centennial Care or the health insurance Marketplace.

Recertification Process Deferred

This year, the Pool was to begin a phased-in "recertification process." Policyholders with birth months January through April were to reapply to the Pool and provide documentation that they were still eligible for coverage. The Pool Board of Directors has deferred the recertification process to the 2017 enrollment period which will begin on November 1, 2016.

Policyholders with birthdates January through April will *not* need to reapply to the Pool and policyholders with extenuating circumstances (for example, if you are undergoing active medical treatment) will *not* need to request a one year extension of coverage.

Transition Activities to Continue

The Pool will carry on with its goal of “depopulation” and transition activities will continue. Policyholders are encouraged to explore options and take the opportunity to choose new coverages during open enrollment, which begins November 1, 2015 and continues through January 31, 2016. Please review your options at www.bewellnm.com, www.healthcare.gov, or call **1-800-318-2596**. To find an agent or enrollment counselor, you can call **1-855-99-NMHIX (1-855-996-6449)**.

2016 Premium Rates

The Pool premium rates will increase by an average 3.8% effective **January 1, 2016**. The new rates can be viewed on the Pool’s website at www.nmmip.org and will be in effect for calendar year 2016.

You will also have an increase in premium the month after your birth month, since the Pool bases rates on attained age.

Note: Per New Mexico Statutory Regulation, the Pool is required to determine a standard risk rate (SRR) by actuarially calculating the rate that an insurer would charge for a policy (with the same benefits as the Pool) issued to an individual who is a “standard risk.” The Pool provides coverage to individuals who are considered to be “high risk,” not standard risk. By statute, the Pool premium rates can be calculated up to 150% of the SRR. The Pool Board has set the new rates at 130% of the SRR.

Centennial Care

If you are an adult between the ages of 19-64 and your annual income qualifies, you may qualify for **Centennial Care (Medicaid)**, a free program, with year round enrollment. A single person with an annual income in the amount of \$16,248 or less or a family of four with income up to \$33,468 annually may qualify. To check your eligibility and apply for benefits, please visit www.YES.state.nm.us or call **1-855-637-6574**.

Medicare Carve-Out Plan

The Pool offers a Medicare Carve-Out Plan, for individuals with disabilities, under age 65, on Medicare Parts A&B. If you are currently on the Regular Plan, and you are under age 65 and are on Medicare A&B due to a disability, you may submit a Medicare Carve-Out Application for Coverage, along with a copy of your Medicare card. Call Customer Service at **1-800-432-0750** for an application or print an application from the Pool’s website at www.nmmip.org.

Deductible Changes

The Pool offers four deductible plans: \$500, \$1000, \$2000, and \$5000. If you want to reduce your monthly premium rate, you may want to consider increasing your deductible plan. This will lower

your monthly premium, but it will increase your “out of pocket” amount. The pharmacy benefit remains the same.

Policyholders can change from a *lower to a higher* deductible plan at any time upon written notice to the Administrator. The effective date of the change will be on the first of the month following receipt of the written request.

Changes from a *higher to a lower* deductible plan are allowed only one time per year, for a January 1 effective date. Written requests to lower your deductible must be received by November 15, 2015, in order to be effective January 1, 2016.

Low Income Premium Program

The Pool has a Low Income Premium Program (LIPP), which, if you qualify, provides discounts to your monthly premium. There are three levels of premium reduction, based on household size and annual household income. See the chart below for income ranges and reductions.

If you do not currently participate in the LIPP, please refer to the chart. If you think that you may qualify, call Customer Service at **1-800-432-0750** for a Low Income Premium Program Supplemental Application, or print one from the Pool website, at www.nmmip.org. **A complete copy of your signed and dated 2014 Federal Form 1040 must be attached.** If, by law, you are *not* required to file income tax, the Affidavit Section must be completed, signed, and notarized. If you qualify, the effective date of any reduction will be the first of the month following receipt of the application.

NOTE: If your premium is being paid by a third party who is *not* a family member, you are *not* eligible to participate in the LIPP.

Income Ranges are Effective July 2015 through June 2016

Household Size	0-199% of 2015 HHS Poverty Guidelines 75% Premium Reduction *	200-299% of 2015 HHS Poverty Guidelines 50% Premium Reduction *	300-399% of 2015 HHS Poverty Guidelines 25% Premium Reduction *
1	\$23,422	\$35,192	\$46,962
2	\$31,701	\$47,631	\$63,561
3	\$39,979	\$60,069	\$80,159
4	\$48,258	\$72,508	\$96,758
5	\$56,536	\$84,946	\$113,356
6	\$64,814	\$97,384	\$129,954
7	\$73,093	\$109,823	\$146,553
8	\$81,371	\$122,261	\$163,151

* Your income must be at or below the amount stated for the discount indicated. The income amount used is Total Income (before adjustments and credits) from line 4 of 1040EZ, line 15 of Form 1040A, or line 22 of Form 1040.

Address/Phone/Email Changes and Updates

We gladly except any address change you may have, but by statutory regulation, the Pool is for New Mexico residents only. Therefore, we must have a physical address on file within New Mexico even if you cannot receive mail at that address.

Pool Addresses and Contact Information

Payments: New Mexico Medical Insurance Pool
 P.O. Box 27745
 Albuquerque, NM 87125-7745

Correspondence: New Mexico Medical Insurance Pool
 P.O. Box 27049
 Albuquerque, NM 87125-7049

Customer Service 1-800-432-0750

Fax Number: 505-816-5671

The Pool's Board of Directors is pleased to have the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah Armstrong". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Deborah Armstrong
Executive Director
New Mexico Medical Insurance Pool (Pool)