



# Iowa Department of Human Services

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## INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1672-MC

**DATE:** May 10, 2016

**TO:** All Iowa Medicaid Providers Excluding Individual Consumer Directed Attendant Care (CDAC) and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)

**FROM:** Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

**RE:** Process for American Indian/Alaskan Natives (AI/AN) "Race Option" Member Application

**EFFECTIVE:** Immediately

Effective immediately, Medicaid members that are AI/AN, and have not chosen the AI/AN "Race Option" on their Medicaid application will automatically be enrolled with an MCO.

In order for this population to remain as Fee-for-Service (FFS) the member will need to take action and contact the Department of Human Services' (DHS) Call Center at 1-877-347-5678 to have their member application revised prior to initial MCO assignment. If the member chooses not to take any action, the member is considered to have "opted in" to the managed care program. For members enrolled in managed care that desire to be switched to FFS after correcting their race on the application, the member will then need to also contact the IME Member Services call center at 1-800-338-8366 or locally in Des Moines at 515-256-4606 to make this choice.

Please note, however, this is not an automatic change for the current month.

**Additional Information can be found at the following link:**

<https://dhs.iowa.gov/iahealthlink/faqs/MCO>

### **When Will a Member's Choice Take Effect?**

AI/AN members who choose to change their selection to FFS will continue to receive MCO coverage from their current MCO until their request takes effect. Please note, if a change is made in the middle of a month, the change may not take effect for up to three months.

AI/AN members wishing to make a change regarding their MCO selection or "opt out" and return to FFS will have the following choice cut-off dates for the 2016 year:

Choice Cut-Off Date	Effective Coverage Date
May 19, 2016	June 1, 2016
June 16, 2016	July 1, 2016
July 19, 2016	August 1, 2016
August 18, 2016	September 1, 2016
September 16, 2016	October 1, 2016
October 19, 2016	November 1, 2016
November 17, 2016	December 1, 2016
December 19, 2016	January 1, 2017

**How to Read this Chart:**

**Choice Cut-Off Date:** AI/AN members must make their change by this date for the change to take effect by the Effective Date.

**Effective Coverage Date:** Date that MCO or FFS change will take effect.

**For example:** The last day to make a choice for coverage effective July 1, 2016, is June 16, 2016. If an AI/AN member changes their coverage between June 17, 2016, and June 30, 2016, this change will not take effect until August 1, 2016.

**Important Note:**

AI/AN members who make changes after the choice cut-off date will continue to receive MCO coverage from their current MCO until the change takes effect.

Potentially, this means that an AI/AN member will remain with their MCO for the first three months of enrollment.

Remember, it is the AI/AN member’s choice to “opt in” to the MCO of their choice or remain FFS once their AI/AN “Race Option” has been entered into their file.

If you have any questions contact the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, or email at [IMEproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:IMEproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us).