



September 30, 2026

Nevada Medicaid Web Announcement 4022

Attention Hospital and NICU Providers:

Billing Guidance for Deemed Newborns, Including Infants in the Custody of Licensed Private Child-Placing Agencies

Nevada Medicaid is providing clarification to hospital and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) providers regarding Medicaid eligibility and billing for deemed newborns, including infants who are placed in the legal custody of a licensed private child-placing agency following birth.

Under 42 CFR § 435.117 and Nevada Medicaid in the Medicaid Assistance Manual (MAM) Chapter B-120.1 deemed newborn policy, an infant born to a mother who is covered by Medicaid on the date of the infant's birth is deemed Medicaid eligible. A separate Medicaid application is not required for the infant, and eligibility continues from the date of birth through the infant's first birthday, subject to the limited exceptions established under federal regulation.

A change in custody or placement does not, by itself, end a deemed newborn's Medicaid eligibility. This includes placement of the infant in the custody of a licensed private child-placing agency or placement with prospective adoptive parents.

Providers should not consider the infant uninsured or require a new Medicaid application solely because custody or placement has changed.

Billing Deemed Newborn Services

Hospital and NICU providers should follow these billing procedures:

- Until a separate Medicaid identification number is issued to the infant, the biological mother's Medicaid identification number may be used for the deemed newborn pursuant to 42 CFR § 435.117(c).
- Once the infant has been assigned a Medicaid identification number, providers must bill using the infant's Medicaid information.
- Before submitting a claim, providers should verify the infant's current Medicaid eligibility and Medicaid identification number through the Provider Web Portal (PWP).
- Providers should also verify whether the infant is enrolled with a Managed Care Organization (MCO) and bill the appropriate responsible payer.
- The billing process does not change based on the infant's custody or placement with a licensed private child-placing agency, foster family, or prospective adoptive family.
- Once Medicaid eligibility and the appropriate Medicaid identification number have been verified, providers should bill Medicaid or the appropriate MCO in the same manner as for any other Medicaid member.

If an infant does not qualify as a deemed newborn, including when the biological mother was not covered by Medicaid on the date of birth, a separate Medicaid eligibility determination is required. Providers should verify eligibility in the PWP prior to billing.