

Medical Needy

There is no “income limit” for a Medically Needy spenddown. The protected income limit is \$475 but that’s the amount of monthly income the member gets to keep. All countable monthly income above that amount is considered toward calculation of the spenddown, minus disregards and expenses. So, the higher the monthly income, the higher the spenddown amount.

For people within the elderly and disabled population who do not qualify for Medicaid, Medically Needy spenddowns are kind of the program of last resort. During PHE, we may have had people qualifying for HCBS or Working Healthy that are no longer eligible for those programs and will receive spenddown coverage instead. It’s possible they may have also been covered under a Protected Medical Group or SSI and have lost eligibility for those programs and moved to a spenddown. Typically, to go from a Medicaid program to a spenddown means they are no longer meeting eligibility criteria to continue receiving Medicaid and transfer to spenddown coverage (or MSP only) instead.

The number of children affected by redetermination

As of 8/31/23:

Of the 300,443 members sent a renewal, 106,511 are 18 years of age or younger. The breakdown of approvals, discontinuances, and those in the reinstatement window are below:

- Approved: 60,817 children
- Discontinued: 9,963 children
- Within the reinstatement window: 35,731 children

The number of members that have moved from Medicaid to CHIP at review (8/31/23) is 10,153.