



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

Communication to Active PBHS Billing Providers on Estimated Payment Recoupment Extension

In October 2023, MDH announced a payment extension opportunity for providers who were scheduled to have “balloon” payments due on 12/31/2023. Providers were given the opportunity via a [survey](#) to notify MDH if they intended to keep existing repayment plans with “balloon” payments due on 12/31/2023, or establish a new payment plan with an extension, interest free, with payment being received by June 30, 2024.

MDH extends appreciation to those providers who have paid off their balances as of 12/31/2023, as well as those providers who have worked on establishing a new payment plan with an extension to June 30, 2024 with Optum. It is every provider's responsibility to ensure that overpayments from the publicly funded system are returned to the State.

To ensure these funds are returned, effective immediately, MDH will also extend the option of repayment to June 30, 2024 for certain providers that responded to the survey and have yet to set up a new payment plan with Optum **and** providers who did not respond to the survey or pay balance due as of 12/31/2023. This extension will occur for these providers under the following conditions.


- **Providers who responded but have not signed updated ACH agreements:** These providers will begin to have their claims clipped at a percent equal to the prior amount of the ACH agreement as of 12/31/2023. Providers must enter into new ACH agreements by 1/31/2024, or claims clipping at this amount will continue through 6/30/2024. Those that do not enter into an agreement will result in any remaining balance as a balloon payment on 6/30/24.
- **Providers who did not respond to the survey and still have remaining balances:** These providers will begin having new claims clipped at the amount prior to 12/31/2023 through 6/30/2024. Any remaining balances will result as a balloon payment due on 6/30/2024.
 - For any providers that did not have a claims clipping, or an ACH agreement in place prior to 12/31/2023, 33% will be clipped unless providers outreach to Optum to request a new agreement, using the following email: Maryland.provpymt@optum.com. Those that do not enter into an agreement will result in any remaining balance as a balloon payment on 6/30/24.

Between the denials mitigation project and an updated review and establishment of repayment plans, MDH is giving providers every opportunity to avoid the Central Collections Unit (CCU).

With this extension, any overpayment of estimated payment balances not paid in full by June 30, 2024 will be transferred to CCU.

Thank you for partnering with MDH to ensure that these funds continue to support behavioral health services for those most in need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura Scott", is positioned above the typed name.

Laura Herrera Scott, MD, MPH
Secretary