

Be Smart. Be Ready.

No Cost Reproductive Health Services in North Carolina

Facts about the Medicaid “Be Smart” Family Planning Program (formerly Family Planning Waiver)

### **What is the “Be Smart” Family Planning Program?**

The Medicaid “**Be Smart**” Family Planning Program is designed to reduce unintended pregnancies and improve the well-being of children and families in North Carolina. Family planning/reproductive health services are provided to eligible males and females, who have incomes at or below 185% of the federal poverty level for those who do not otherwise qualify for Medicaid. The program has no age restrictions.

### **Who can enroll with Medicaid to provide Family Planning Services under the “Be Smart” program?**

- Ambulatory Surgery Centers
- Birthing Centers
- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists
- Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Laboratories
- Local Health Departments
- Nurse Practitioners
- Nurse Midwives
- Outpatient Hospitals
- Physicians
- Rural Health Clinics

For information on enrolling as a North Carolina Medicaid provider, refer to the Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) website at <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/provenroll/>

Providers in the categories above who are already enrolled in Medicaid can see “Be Smart” beneficiaries immediately.

### **What services are covered under the “Be Smart” program?**

The following services are covered through the “**Be Smart**” program when provided as part of a family planning visit:

- An annual exam and a total of six inter-periodic office visits per year (for counseling, patient education, and treatment)
- Specific laboratory procedures (i.e., pap smears, pregnancy tests)
- FDA-approved and Medicaid-covered contraceptive methods, procedures, pharmaceutical supplies, and devices
- Screening for HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) and AIDS
- Screening and treatment for specific sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
- Voluntary sterilization (in accordance with federal sterilization guidelines)
- Non-emergency medical transportation to and from family planning appointments

**Note:** There is no co-payment for any covered services received through the “**Be Smart**” program.

When services are not covered under the “**Be Smart**” program and the provider does not offer affordable or free care, providers should refer patients to their local Department of Social Services (DSS) for a list of primary care “safety net” providers, or visit NC HealthcareHelp.org at <http://www.nchealthcarehelp.org/about.php>.

### **Who can sign up for the “Be Smart” program?**

Individuals who have incomes at or below 185% of the federal poverty level and who are:

- U.S. citizens or qualified aliens;
- Residents of North Carolina;
- Not incarcerated;
- Not pregnant; and
- Not permanently sterilized.

### **How can I sign my patients up for the “Be Smart” program?**

Individuals interested in applying may get an application from their local DSS, health department or on-line at <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/medicaid/applications.htm>. The completed application must be returned to their local DSS.

### **Who do I contact if I have questions about the “Be Smart” program?**

For more information about this special Medicaid program, please visit North Carolina’s Division of Medical Assistance (Medicaid) website at <http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma/medicaid/familyplanning.htm>.

*With an effective date of November 1, 2013, the “Be Smart” program was approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) as the State Eligibility Option for Family Planning Services, which is an amendment to the Medicaid State Plan. Beneficiaries currently enrolled in the “Be Smart” Waiver program will transition to the State Plan Eligibility Option with no lapse in service. There is no anticipated end date to the “Be Smart” Family Planning program.*