

**From:** DMHC Licensing eFiling

**Subject:** APL 21-020 – Continued Coverage of COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing

**Date:** Monday, July 26, 2021, 3:22 PM

**Attachments:** APL 21-020 – Continued Coverage of COVID)-19 Diagnostic Testing (7.26.2021).pdf

Dear Health Plan Representative:

Please find attached All Plan Letter (APL) 21-020, regarding Continued Coverage of COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing.

Thank you.



Gavin Newsom, Governor  
State of California  
Health and Human Services Agency  
**DEPARTMENT OF MANAGED HEALTH CARE**  
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[www.HealthHelp.ca.gov](http://www.HealthHelp.ca.gov)

## ALL PLAN LETTER

**DATE:** July 26, 2021

**TO:** All Full-Service Health Care Service Plans<sup>1</sup>

**FROM:** Sarah Ream  
Chief Counsel

**SUBJECT:** APL 21-020 – Continued Coverage of COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing

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On July 26, 2021, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued COVID-19 diagnostic testing requirements for employees in health care, long-term care, congregate living, and similar types of facilities who are not fully vaccinated against COVID-19. CDPH's State Public Health Officer Order can be found at their [Public Website](#).

Health plans are reminded that federal law continues to require them to cover COVID-19 testing for their enrollees when the testing provides an individualized assessment of whether the enrollee has a COVID-19 infection.<sup>2</sup> Health plans must cover the testing whether it is performed in or out of network and may impose no prior authorization or cost-sharing requirements on such testing. Health plans must cover the testing whether the person is symptomatic or asymptomatic and regardless of whether the person has had recent known or suspected exposure to COVID-19.

If you have questions regarding this APL, please contact your health plan's assigned reviewer in the DMHC's Office of Plan Licensing.

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<sup>1</sup> This APL applies to full-service health plans, including those with limited or restricted licenses. It does not apply to health plans with only Medicare Advantage lines of business licensed by the DMHC.

<sup>2</sup> FAQs About Families First Coronavirus Response Act and Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, Implementation Part 44, issued on February 26, 2021, by the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and the Treasury. The FAQs are available at the [CMS Public Website](#).

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