



THE STATE OF FLORIDA  
**JUSTICE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION**

227 North Bronough Street, Suite 2100  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301



**Alton L. "Rip" Colvin, Jr.**  
Executive Director

(850) 488-2415  
FAX (850) 488-8944

[www.justiceadmin.org](http://www.justiceadmin.org)

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**MEMORANDUM HR20-2022**

To: Agency Administrators  
From: Carolyn Horwich, Esq., Director of Human Resources  
Subject: Weight Management Program  
Date: September 30, 2022

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Please share the attached Management Advisory from the Division of State Group Insurance with all employees.

Thank you.

## Management Advisory #22-008

**DATE:** Sept. 30, 2022  
**TO:** Agency and University Personnel Officers and Benefits Coordinators  
**FROM:** Ryan Stokes, Director, Division of State Group Insurance   
**SUBJECT:** Weight Management Program for 2023 Plan Year

**\*\*Please distribute this information to all employees\*\***

The Department of Management Services (Department) will offer the sixth year of a Weight Management Program for the 2023 plan year to provide coverage for the treatment and management of obesity and related conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and heart disease.

The program is open to 2,500 enrollees and their dependents in the State Group Health Insurance Program who meet **ALL** of the following eligibility criteria:

1. Enrolled in Aetna, AvMed, Florida Blue, Capital Health Plan, or United Healthcare in the 2022 **and** 2023 plan years;
2. Body Mass Index (BMI) of 27 or higher and at least one weight-related comorbid condition (e.g., hypertension, high cholesterol, type 2 diabetes) **or** BMI of 30 without a comorbid condition;
3. Age 18 years or older;
4. Completed their health plan's health risk assessment in 2022 to submit with their online application;
5. Consented to provide personal and medical information to the Department;
6. Referred and supervised by a licensed physician in-network with the health plan during the 2022 plan year; and
7. Agreed to enroll in a Department-approved wellness program during the 2023 plan year;
8. If enrollees participated in year three of this program, they must have submitted a completed Mid-Year Progress Report and End of Year Progress Report.

The following enrollees or their dependents covered under the State Group Health Insurance Program are not eligible to participate in the program:

- Enrollees or dependents under the age of 18;
- Enrollees in COBRA;
- Women who are pregnant, plan to become pregnant, or are nursing;
- Enrollees or dependents who do not meet all the Program's eligibility criteria.

In the 2023 plan year, the program will provide coverage for all visits to a licensed in-network physician supervising a participant as well as coverage for Federal Drug Administration-approved medications for chronic weight management. Program participants will be responsible for all applicable medical and prescription drug copayments, coinsurance, deductibles, and out-of-pocket expenses.

The application period begins on Oct. 3, 2022. The first step for those eligible and interested in participating in the program is to download the [Physician Referral Form](#) from the [My Benefits website](#) and have it completed and signed by their physician. The second step is to apply online and submit a PDF or JPEG file of their completed [Physician Referral Form](#) with an application.

**The window to apply opens October 3, 2022 and closes on November 14, 2022.** The Department will not accept applications that are mailed or faxed; additionally, the Department will not consider applications received after November 14, 2022.

Applicants who meet the program eligibility criteria and who have submitted a completed application with a completed Physician Referral Form signed by their physician, and their health plan's health risk assessment will be selected on a first come, first-serve basis. Only one application will be considered per member.

Participants will be required to enroll and engage in a free Department-approved wellness program and must submit two progress reports during the 2022 plan year. The specific wellness programs will vary based on the health plan, but they will all be based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Lifestyle Change program. The first progress report is due no later than May 26, 2023. The second report is due no later than October 27, 2023. Both progress reports must be signed by the supervising physician and submitted online.

Applicant information will be kept confidential. The Department is required to report program information to the Florida Legislature by December 15, 2023. Only the combined results of all participants will be reported and shared. Information about individual participation will not be disclosed.

Please share the [FAQs](#) and encourage employees to visit the [My Benefits website](#) to see if they are eligible and when and how to apply. Please do not direct employees to contact People First as the Division of State Group Insurance is solely responsible for administering the program. If you have any questions about the program, please email [weightmanagement@dms.fl.gov](mailto:weightmanagement@dms.fl.gov).

Thank you in advance for your support of this program to help improve the long-term health and quality of life for employees enrolled in the State Group Health Insurance Program.