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**Ron DeSantis, Governor**  
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**MANAGEMENT ADVISORY #19-008**

**DATE:** October 9, 2019

**TO:** Agency and University Personnel Officers and Benefits Coordinators

**FROM:** Debbie Shoup, Manager, Member Services

**SUBJECT:** Weight Management Pilot Program Year 3

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The Department of Management Services (department) will offer the third year of a Weight Management Pilot Program (program) for the 2020 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 2,000 enrollees and their dependents that are covered under a State Group Insurance health plan who meet ALL of the following eligibility criteria:

1. Enrolled in Aetna, AvMed, Florida Blue, or United Healthcare in the 2019 and 2020 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. 18 years or older;
4. Completed a health risk assessment in 2019;
5. Consent 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 2019 plan year; and
7. Agree to enroll in a department-approved wellness program during the 2020 plan year.
8. If enrollees participated in year two of this pilot, they must have submitted a completed Mid-Year Progress Report and End of Year Progress Report.

The following enrollees or their dependents covered under a State Group Insurance health plan are not eligible to participate in the pilot:

- Enrollees and their dependents enrolled in Capital Health Plan during the 2019 and 2020 plan years;
- 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 Pilot's eligibility criteria.

In the 2020 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 associated with covered services under the program

**The program application period begins on Oct. 7, 2019.**

The first step for those eligible and interested in participating in the program is to download the [Physician Referral Form](#) from the [myBenefits 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 Oct. 7, 2019 and closes on Nov. 15, 2019.** The department will not accept applications that are mailed or faxed in; additionally, the department will not consider applications received after Nov. 15, 2019.

Applicants who meet the program eligibility criteria and who have submitted a completed application with a completed Physician Referral Form signed by their physician 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 2020 plan year. The specific wellness programs will vary based on the participant's 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 29, 2020. The second report is due no later than Oct. 30, 2020. Both progress reports must be signed by the participant's supervising physician and submitted online.

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

Please share the Frequently Asked Questions and encourage employees to visit the [myBenefits 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.myflorida.com](mailto:weightmanagement@dms.myflorida.com).

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 a State Group Insurance health plan.