

Monthly Provider Check-In

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25 in 2024: Announcing more *Health Happens Here Grants*™



Organizations across Illinois are closing care gaps and addressing health-related social needs of Meridian members and their local communities. Through our *Health Happens Here Grants*, we're proud to invest in this work—from food pantry resources in Murphysboro to nursing career pathways in Belleville.

We closed out 2024 by awarding nearly \$1.4 million to 25 organizations. "These grants will support behavioral health and wellness programs, support for young mothers, professional and career development, mobile health units, and non-emergency transport services, all of which are critical to the health of these communities," said Cristal Gary, Meridian Plan President and CEO.

Earn dollars for your practice with our Pay for Performance (P4P) program

Through our P4P program, contracted providers can earn incentives for delivering quality preventive care. **In response to your feedback, we've enhanced our 2025 P4P incentives.** Providers can now earn more rewards for serving Meridian and YouthCare members.



- An additional 50th percentile target expands incentives
- Rewards are available to providers like OB/GYNs and behavioral health clinicians for two key measures
- Increased dollar amounts for areas such as childhood immunizations and maternal healthcare recognize exceptional care

[Meridian 2025 P4P Program](#) ↗

[YouthCare 2025 P4P Program](#) ↗

Learn at our February Quality webinars

Discover strategies to maximize your practice's performance by attending our monthly Quality Improvement webinars. February webinars will cover:

- 2025 P4P Program
- Appropriate billing for Breast Cancer Screenings (BCS-E HEDIS® measure)
- Clinical Excellence and Care Engagement Team overviews

Register: [February 13 from 2-3 p.m.](#) or [February 26 from 8:30-9:30 a.m.](#)

[February QI webinars](#) ↗

Help members take heart health to heart

During American Heart Month this February, let's join forces to promote prevention and management of cardiovascular disease (CVD). Here are resources to support you and your patients:



- Guide patients to our [HealthSheets™ library](#), with resources in English and Spanish to help them understand [heart disease risk factors](#), [cholesterol tests](#), and [high blood pressure](#).
- Remind your Meridian patients to sign up for our [Healthy Rewards program](#). They can earn prepaid debit cards for completing their annual checkup, screenings, and more.
- Refer patients with CVD to Meridian's [Chronic Disease Management Program](#). Eligible members can receive health coaching and resources like a home blood pressure monitor at no cost.
- Recommend specialized programs for patients with CVD risk factors, such as an accredited [Diabetes Prevention Program](#) covered by Medicaid.

Pharmacy spotlight: 2025 American Diabetes Association (ADA) updates

The ADA has released its annual Standards of Care, which aim to improve outcomes for children and adults with diabetes. The 2025 recommendations have been updated to further include people with a high risk of developing diabetes. Notable changes include:

- Guidance on the use of GLP-1 receptor agonists beyond weight loss
- Considerations related to continuous glucose monitors and other technology
- Potentially harmful medications during pregnancy

[2025 ADA updates](#) ↗

There's still time to prevent RSV

The risk of acute respiratory illness causing people to seek care remains serious in Illinois, with [IDPH](#) tracking the burden of these diseases. Unlike the flu or COVID-

19, infants and young children represent the largest age group admitted to hospitals for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). View our updated RSV provider notice for options available to patients.

[RSV updates](#) ↗

Stay enrolled as a Medicaid provider: Know your date to revalidate

Revalidation every five years is a federal requirement for Medicaid providers that was paused during COVID-19. Illinois resumed this process in September 2024. Providers who did not revalidate in 2024 should prepare to take this step in 2025—or risk being terminated from Medicaid without the ability to receive payment.



- Do you know your organization’s current revalidation status?
- Do you know when your 90-day revalidation cycle will begin?
- Are you certain your organization’s contact information in the [IMPACT](#) system is accurate?

If you answered “no” to any of these questions, review our recent provider notice for resources.

[Prepare for revalidation](#)

Notable HFS notices

- HFS issued the following coverage change notices effective **January 1, 2025**:
 - [Genetic testing for inherited cancer-related gene mutations](#)
 - [Human Papilloma Virus \(HPV\) vaccination for persons ages 46 and older](#)
 - Find electronic Visit Verification (EVV) [technical assistance resources](#) and review [Meridian’s most recent EVV provider notice](#).
 - Find updates on certification, enrollment, and billing requirements for [doulas](#) and [lactation consultants](#) seeking to become Medicaid providers.
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Fee schedule updates, rate changes, & billing updates

Claim alerts and known issues are posted on our [website](#), along with updates from Meridian about proactively reprocessing claims. Claims should not be resubmitted unless otherwise indicated. For billing questions, contact your assigned Provider Engagement Administrator or representative. If your practice doesn't have an assigned representative, please complete our [intake form](#).

- HFS issued a [provider notice](#) informing Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Facilities of rate changes effective **January 1, 2025**.

In case you missed it

- Review and download our [2025 HEDIS Quick Reference Guide](#) for information on the most current HEDIS measures, how to document them for care gap closure, and measures that can be reported through the electronic-only method.
- **March 14, 2025** is the last day for standard collection of HEDIS MY 2024 supplemental data, and Supplemental Data Exchange (SuDS) sources must be finalized. Providers with questions should email Elizabeth.James@mhplan.com.
- The annual CAHPS® survey will be distributed to a random sample of Meridian members starting later this month. View our [CAHPS survey tips](#) and recently published [2024 Medicaid survey results](#) to help improve members' perceptions of their healthcare experience.

Meridian and our family of plans connect communities across the state to the whole-health care they need, right where they are.



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