



**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
**Division of Hearings and Appeals**

---

In the Matter of

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**DECISION**  
Case #: CWA - 218281

---

**PRELIMINARY RECITALS**

Pursuant to a petition filed on May 12, 2025, under Wis. Admin. Code § HA 3.03, to review a decision by the Bureau of Long-Term Support regarding Medical Assistance (MA), a hearing was held on June 25, 2025, by telephone.

The issue for determination is whether Petitioner is entitled to IRIS enrollment from November 1, 2024 through March 20, 2025.

There appeared at that time the following persons:

**PARTIES IN INTEREST:**

Petitioner:

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Respondent:

Department of Health Services  
1 West Wilson Street, Room 651  
Madison, WI 53703

By: Theresa Sommerfeldt  
Bureau of Long-Term Support  
PO Box 7851  
Madison, WI 53707-7851

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:**

Teresa A. Perez  
Division of Hearings and Appeals

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Petitioner is a resident of Milwaukee County who has been enrolled in the IRIS Program for several years. TMG is his IRIS Consultant Agency.

2. Petitioner's annual Medicaid renewal was due in October 2024. He completed that renewal on October 30, 2024 and MiES confirmed his ongoing eligibility on that date. (Testimony of L. Griffin).
3. Despite completing his Medicaid renewal on October 30, 2024, MiES mistakenly failed to issue a notice to Petitioner indicating that his Community Waivers was open for the month of November 2024.
4. Petitioner was disenrolled from IRIS effective November 1, 2024 because the State's MMIS database indicated to TMG that he had not completed his Medicaid renewal.
5. TMG notified MiES that Petitioner had been disenrolled from IRIS because he failed to complete his Medicaid renewal and MiES then closed Petitioner's Community Waivers case effective December 1, 2024.
6. Petitioner spent the next several months attempting to get re-enrolled in IRIS which finally occurred on March 21, 2025.
7. On May 12, 2025, Petitioner filed request for a fair hearing seeking IRIS coverage from November 1, 2025 through March 20, 2025.

### **DISCUSSION**

To participate in IRIS, an individual must meet the financial and non-financial eligibility criteria for one of the following: a "full benefit category of [Elderly, Blind, Disabled] Medicaid", BadgerCare Plus, Wisconsin Well Woman Medicaid, or Adoption Assistance. *Medicaid Eligibility Handbook (MEH)* §§1.1.2 and 28.1.5 and *IRIS Policy Manual, Addenda: Eligibility*, Sec. A.5. SSI-Related Medicaid, SSI Medicaid, Medical Assistance Purchase Plan (MAPP), and Community Waivers are all full benefit Medicaid programs. *MEH* §1.1.2. If a person becomes ineligible for Medicaid, they become ineligible for IRIS and must be disenrolled. See *IRIS Policy Manual, Addenda: Program Enrollment*, Sec. D.3.

In this case, Petitioner was automatically disenrolled from IRIS on November 1, 2025 based on an entry in a centralized state database indicating that he had become ineligible for Medicaid. In fact, Petitioner continued to meet Medicaid eligibility requirements continuously and completed his Medicaid renewal by October 30, 2024, the month that his renewal was due. These facts are not in dispute.

As stated in a recently issued publication from the Department of Health Services, "federal rules require states to maintain coverage while completing regularly scheduled renewals as long as the renewal is received before the end of the month the renewal is due." *DMS Operations Memo 25-07*. That publication goes on to state, "The member's existing health care coverage must be maintained while their renewal is being processed by the IM agency. This requirement applies to all renewals received during the renewal month, including renewals received after adverse action but on or before the last business day of the renewal month." Although the policy announced in that publication is new, the federal rules upon which it is based are not. Moreover, Petitioner, as stated above, did not become ineligible for Medicaid or fail to complete his Medicaid renewal. That a computer system says something does not necessarily make it so. He thus should not have been disenrolled from IRIS.

I am therefore remanding this matter to order that Petitioner be re-enrolled in IRIS from November 1, 2024 through March 20, 2025.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Petitioner is entitled to IRIS enrollment from November 1, 2024 through March 20, 2025 because he was eligible for full benefit Medicaid throughout that time period and because he had provided all necessary verification to prove that prior to November 1, 2024.

**THEREFORE, it is ORDERED**

That this matter is remanded to the agency with instructions to: (1) reinstate the petitioner’s IRIS benefits as of November 1, 2024, and (2) send written confirmation to Petitioner that it has done so. These actions shall be completed within 10 days of the date of this order.

**REQUEST FOR A REHEARING**

You may request a rehearing if you think this decision is based on a serious mistake in the facts or the law or if you have found new evidence that would change the decision. Your request must be **received within 20 days after the date of this decision**. Late requests cannot be granted.

Send your request for rehearing in writing to the Division of Hearings and Appeals, 4822 Madison Yards Way, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor North, Madison, WI 53705-5400 **and** to those identified in this decision as "PARTIES IN INTEREST." Your rehearing request must explain what mistake the Administrative Law Judge made and why it is important or you must describe your new evidence and explain why you did not have it at your first hearing. If your request does not explain these things, it will be denied.

The process for requesting a rehearing may be found at Wis. Stat. § 227.49. A copy of the statutes may be found online or at your local library or courthouse.

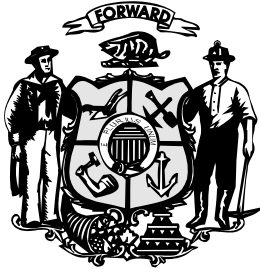
**APPEAL TO COURT**

You may also appeal this decision to Circuit Court in the county where you live. Appeals must be filed with the Court **and** served either personally or by certified mail on the Secretary of the Department of Health Services, 1 West Wilson Street, Room 651, **and** on those identified in this decision as “PARTIES IN INTEREST” **no more than 30 days after the date of this decision** or 30 days after a denial of a timely rehearing (if you request one).

The process for Circuit Court Appeals may be found at Wis. Stat. §§ 227.52 and 227.53. A copy of the statutes may be found online or at your local library or courthouse.

Given under my hand at the City of Madison,  
Wisconsin, this 25th day of June, 2025

\s \_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa A. Perez  
Administrative Law Judge  
Division of Hearings and Appeals



**State of Wisconsin \DIVISION OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS**

Brian Hayes, Administrator  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor North  
4822 Madison Yards Way  
Madison, WI 53705-5400

Telephone: (608) 266-7709  
FAX: (608) 264-9885  
email: [DHAmail@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHAmail@wisconsin.gov)  
Internet: <http://dha.state.wi.us>

The preceding decision was sent to the following parties on June 25, 2025.

Bureau of Long-Term Support

