



Network Communication Bulletin #184

Transforming Lives. Building Community Well-Being.

To: All Providers
From: Khristine Brewington, MS, LCMHCS, LCAS, CCS, CCJP
VP of Network Management
Date: August 13, 2021
Subject: New 2023 Deadline for Connecting to HIE Network Absolves Need for Hardship Extensions

NEW 2023 DEADLINE FOR CONNECTING TO HIE NETWORK ABSOLVES NEED FOR HARDSHIP EXTENSIONS

As detailed in the July 26, 2021, Medicaid Bulletin [Legislation Gives Providers More Time to Connect to NC HealthConnex](#), House Bill 395 (now [NC Session Law 2021-26](#)) established Jan. 1, 2023 as the new connection deadline for NC Medicaid and state-funded health care service providers, and their affiliated entities, to connect to and begin submitting demographic and clinical data to the state-designated health information exchange (HIE), NC HealthConnex.

With this extension of time, the need for hardship extensions is absolved, as the extension granted through the hardship process is now matched by the extension granted through new legislation. Therefore, effective Aug. 1, 2021, NC Medicaid will no longer accept submissions of the NC DHHS HIE Hardship Extension Request Form.

Providers are still responsible for ensuring they have a valid participation agreement on file with the NC HIEA and communicating their readiness to the HIEA to begin development. Connecting to NC HealthConnex can take up to 12 months depending on the provider's EHR status, so providers are strongly encouraged to begin technical development no later than Jan. 1, 2022. Any provider with questions regarding their status on the List of NC HealthConnex Participants should contact the [NC HIEA](#).

For more details see the [NC HIEA June 2021 Update](#), or to review changes in their entirety, see [NC Session Law 2021-26](#).



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For information on who is currently connected to NC HealthConnex, visit the [NC HealthConnex Participant Map](#).

For providers who would like to inquire about their organization's connection status, please email HIESupport@sas.com. All other questions may be directed to hiea@nc.gov.

Any questions about this Communication Bulletin *that does not already have an email listed for questions from that specific section*, may be sent to the following email: NetworkManagement@TrilliumNC.org. These questions will be answered in a Q&A format and published on Trillium's website.