

# 2026 Annual Health Plan Selection (AHPS)

# 2026 Health Plan Changes

- UCare will have a new Health Plan ID beginning January 1, 2026, for all programs and products.
  - The new UCare Health plan ID number is A390628400.
- Enrollees that want to make a health plan change must return their notice or phone-in a health plan change.
- **Prepaid Medical Assistance Program (PMAP) (MA 12, IM 12, NM 12)**
  - HealthPartners will remain in the same counties as 2025 and will accept new enrollments and be part of the rotating default again.
  - PrimeWest will be the single plan option in the PrimeWest service area.
  - South Country Health Alliance (SCHA) will be the single plan option in the South Country Health Alliance service area.
  - UCare will remain in the same counties as 2025 and will continue not accepting new enrollments, reenrollments, or be part of the rotating default.

# 2026 Health Plan Changes (cont. 1)

- **MinnesotaCare (BB01, FF01, LL01)**
  - HealthPartners will remain in the same counties as 2025 and will accept new enrollments and be part of the rotating default again.
  - UCare will remain in the same counties as 2025 and will continue not accepting new enrollments, reenrollments, or be part of the rotating default.
- **Integrated Special Needs BasicCare (SNBC) (MA 17):**
  - PrimeWest and South County Health Alliance are the only plans with an integrated SNBC option for 2026.
  - Medica will no longer offer an Integrated SNBC plan in any county.
  - UCare will no longer offer an Integrated SNBC plan in any county.

# 2026 Health Plan Changes (cont. 2)

- **Non-Integrated SNBC (MA37) :**
  - UCare will remain in the same counties as 2025 and will continue not accepting new enrollments, reenrollments, or be part of the rotating default.
- **Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) (MA02):**
  - UCare will no longer offer MSHO in any county.
- **Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) (MA30, MA35, MA36):**
  - There are no changes for MSC+ for 2026.

- Notice language has been updated.
- For enrollees with more than one plan option notices say:
  - “If you request a change, it will be effective April 1, 2026, or earlier. If you request a change, you will receive a notice in the mail providing the effective date.”
- What this means is:
  - AHPS responses will be processed in the order in which they are received, and enrollments will be entered for the next available month.
  - Enrollment effective dates could be as early at 2/1/2026 for AHPS responses that were processed before cut-off or 1<sup>st</sup> capitation in January.

# AHPS packet contents

- Multi-Plan or One-Plan notice
- The Department of Human Services (DHS) Summary of Coverage, Cost Sharing and Limits 4858 series:
  - [DHS-4858 Prepaid Medical Assistance \(PMAP\)](#)
  - [DHS-4858A MinnesotaCare](#)
  - [DHS-4858B Special Needs BasicCare \(SNBC\)](#)
  - [DHS-4858C Minnesota Senior Care Plus \(MSC+\) and Minnesota Seniors Health Options \(MSHO\)](#)
- DHS-3470: return envelope as appropriate
- Language Block

# Tentative AHPS mailing order

1. Special Needs Basic Care (SNBC) Integrated Duals
2. Minnesota Seniors Health Options (MSHO)
3. Prepaid Medical Assistance (PMAP) – non-metro
4. MinnesotaCare – non-metro
5. Special Needs Basic Care (SNBC) Non-Integrated Duals
6. Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Duals
7. Prepaid Medical Assistance (PMAP) – metro
6. MinnesotaCare – metro
7. Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) Non-duals
8. Special Needs Basic Care (SNBC) Non-duals

# Tentative AHPS mailing timeline

Mailing began in mid-January.

We anticipate all notices will be mailed by February 5, 2026.

# AHPS Processing Timeline

- **February 18, 2026** – Enrollment Cut-off.
  - AHPS requests processed by counties and tribes by the end of the day will have a March 1, 2026, enrollment effective date.
- **February 20, 2026** – First Capitation
  - AHPS requests processed by DHS by the end of the day will have a March 1, 2026, enrollment effective date.
- **March 6, 2026** – AHPS response due date.
  - Enrollees in all programs, except MSHO and Integrated SNBC, must respond by mail or phone on or before the end of the day to ensure their request is processed timely.
- **March 20, 2026** – Enrollment cut-off.
  - AHPS requests processed by counties and tribes by the end of the day will have an April 1, 2026, enrollment effective date.
- **March 24, 2026** – First Capitation.
  - AHPS requests processed by DHS by the end of the day will have an April 1, 2026, enrollment effective date.

## DHS Responsibilities

- DHS will process AHPS changes sent to DHS for:
  - Prepaid Medical Assistance (PMAP) for METS cases
  - MinnesotaCare (MCRE)
  - Special Needs BasicCare (SNBC)
  - Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) change requests sent by health plans.
- DHS AHPS Phone Line
  - Notices for MSC+ non duals, Non-Integrated SNBC, PMAP, and MCRE direct enrollees to call DHS.
  - DHS Annual Health Plan Selection line will open on January 21, 2026.
- AHPS notices received at DHS for MAXIS PMAP and MSC+ will be inter-office mailed to the appropriate processing entity.

# 2026 AHPS county and tribe roles

## County and Tribe Responsibilities

- County and tribal staff assist enrollees with AHPS questions and changes as needed for:
  - PMAP cases
  - MSC+ cases
  - SNBC cases
  - Counties and tribes can choose whether to take phone-in AHPS changes.

# SNBC and Seniors Notice Information

# Special Needs BasicCare (SNBC)

SNBC is a voluntary managed care program for people with disabilities. There are two programs within SNBC.

## 1. Non-integrated SNBC Program (MA 37)

- MA services are covered by the health plan.
  - Can change plans or opt out of SNBC and return to Fee for Service (FFS) by returning their AHPS notice.
  - If dual eligible for MA and Medicare, Medicare services are covered by original Medicare or FFS.
  - Can enroll in Integrated SNBC by calling the health plan they wish to enroll in.

## 2. Integrated SNBC Program (MA 17)

- MA services plus Medicare Part A, B and D prescription drugs are covered by the health plan.
  - Can call Minnesota Aging Pathways to pick a Part D plan which will change them to FFS.

# AHPS Notices for SNBC

- Specific instructions, deadlines, and contact information are on each notice depending on the program the person is enrolled in.
- If an enrollee has questions about SNBC health plan choices or if they want to know if SNBC is right for them, counties and tribes should provide choice counseling. Transfers to the Disability Hub MN™ should only occur if someone has questions beyond choice counseling that the county/tribe can provide.
- Enrollees can call their health plan if they have questions about the clinics or primary care providers available.
- If they do not want to change, they do not need to do anything.

# Senior Notices

# Senior Programs

There are two managed care programs for seniors.

## 1. **Minnesota Senior Care Plus (MSC+) (MA30, MA35, MA36)**

- Mandatory managed care program for people 65+
  - MA services are covered by the health plan.
    - Can change plans by returning their AHPS notice or completing a phone-in change request.
  - If dual eligible for MA and Medicare, Medicare services are covered by FFS or original Medicare.
    - Can enroll in MSHO by calling the health plan they wish to enroll in.

## 2. **Minnesota Senior Health Options (MSHO) (MA02)**

- Voluntary managed care program for people 65+ who opt-in
  - MA services plus Medicare Part A, B and D prescription drugs are covered by the health plan.
    - Can change MSHO plans by calling the health plan they wish to enroll in.
    - Can change to MSC+ by contacting their current health plan.

## AHPS notices for Seniors

- Specific instructions, deadlines, and contact information are on each notice depending on the program the person is enrolled in.
- Enrollees can call Minnesota Aging Pathways if they have questions about MSHO.
- If they do not want to change, they do not have to do anything.

# Partner Contact Information

## Disability Hub MN™

- Toll free at 866-333-2466 or your preferred relay service
- Online at [disabilityhubmn.org](https://disabilityhubmn.org)
- Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Minnesota Aging Pathways

- Minnesota Aging Pathways at 800-333-2433
- <https://mn.gov/board-on-aging/direct-services/aging-pathways/>
- Office hours are Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

# Thank You!

DHS Managed Care Enrollment

[MN\\_DHS\\_ManagedCareEnrollment@state.mn.us](mailto:MN_DHS_ManagedCareEnrollment@state.mn.us)