

Getting Input to Improve Medicaid

State Medicaid agencies must create a **Beneficiary Advisory Council (BAC)** and **Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC)** by July 2025, with some additional requirements phased in over time.

These new advisory groups will provide state Medicaid agencies with insights on topics related to program operations and the needs of Medicaid members.



States may **adapt existing committees** to meet requirements of the BAC and MAC. The existing committees must meet the new requirements and states should indicate in publicly posted bylaws that the group is being used to fulfill the BAC and MAC requirement.

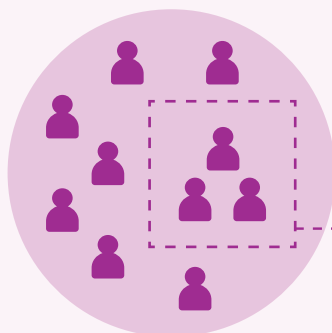
Beneficiary Advisory Council (BAC)

The BAC is a dedicated forum for **people with lived experience** of the Medicaid program. BAC members must include:

Current and/or former Medicaid enrollees

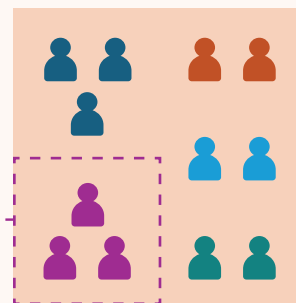
Family members of enrollees

Paid or unpaid caregivers of enrollees



Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC)

The MAC is a **diverse group of Medicaid stakeholders**. The MAC includes BAC members and at least one representative from each of these categories:



Clinical providers/ administrators

Participating plans/ state associations

Other state agencies as ex officio members

State, local, or community-based organizations

By July 10, 2027, 25% of MAC members must be from the BAC.*

*In the final rule, CMS opted to phase in this requirement, providing that 10% of MAC members must also be members of the BAC for the period July 9, 2025, through July 9, 2026; 20% for the period July 10, 2026, through July 9, 2027; and 25% thereafter.

Meeting Requirements



The BAC must meet separately and in advance of MAC meetings.

This helps ensure that the perspective of those with lived experience informs the broader discussions.



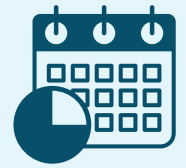
The BAC and MAC must offer a variety of meeting participation options.

Can be in-person, virtual or hybrid, but telephone dial-in is always required.



At least two MAC meetings per year must be public.

Meetings must include dedicated time for public comment.



The BAC and MAC must each meet once per quarter.

Meetings may be held off cycle as necessary.

At least one member of the state's executive staff **must attend** all BAC and MAC meetings.

Outcomes from the BAC and MAC



To promote transparency of the BAC and MAC, states must publicly post bylaws, membership lists, member recruitment and selection processes, and meeting minutes.

States must also publish an annual **MAC and BAC report**. The report must describe for both the BAC and the MAC:

- Activities
- Topics discussed
- Recommendations
- The state's responses to those recommendations