









## Elective Medical Inpatient Authorization Process Change Effective June 1st, 2025.

To provide increased flexibility and better align with industry best practices, we are making the following changes to our elective medical inpatient authorization process effective June 1st, 2025.

- Prior authorizations for elective inpatient services will be approved for professional services by issuing an outpatient (OP) authorization.
  - Elective Inpatient Prior Authorization numbers will now start with the prefix of *OP* instead of *IP* (i.e., *OP*123456789).
  - The authorization will indicate approval at the *inpatient* level of care.
  - Authorization time spans will not change.
- Authorizations for the inpatient stay (IP authorization) will be processed and issued at the time of admission.
  - There is no need to get an IP authorization <u>prior</u> to the date of service. Services can be rendered at any time within the authorization time span.
  - Notification of admission is required within one business day of admit. At
    the time of admission notification, a new authorization number for the
    admission will be provided with the IP prefix (IP Authorization).
  - Failure to provide timely notification may result in a denial of payment for the submitting facility.

As a reminder, all planned/elective admissions to the inpatient setting require *prior authorization*. Prior authorization should be requested at least five (5) days before the scheduled service delivery date or as soon as the need for service is identified. If prior authorization is not on file at the time of elective admission, the service is considered retrospective, and provider should follow the appropriate retrospective request process. Emergent admissions do not require prior authorization.

Thank you for continuing to provide our members with high quality and compassionate care. If you have questions regarding the information contained in this update, please contact us at the appropriate number below.

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HomeStateHealth.com	Show Me Healthy Kids: 1-877-236-1020 / TTY: 711
Ambetter.HomeStateHealth.com	Ambetter: 1-855-650-3789 / TTY: 711
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