

Essential Community Providers (ECPs)

We encourage all of our contracted providers to become designated as an Essential Community Providers (ECP) with the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF). Essential Community Providers serve medically needy or medically indigent patients and demonstrate a commitment to serve low income and medically indigent populations who comprise a significant portion of our patient population. The ECP designation will apply to providers participating in Medicaid/CHP+, and the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange (COHBE).

ECPs are currently defined in Colorado state statute 25.5-5-403 (2) as a healthcare provider that:

- Serves medically needy or medically indigent patients and demonstrates a commitment to serve low-income and medically indigent populations who make up a significant portion of its patient population or, in the case of a sole community provider, serves the medically indigent patients within its medical capability; and
- Waives charges or charges for services on a sliding scale based on income and does not restrict access or services because of a client's financial limitations.

In order to become designated, please visit the HCPF [website](#) and complete the [Application Form](#). If your application is approved, you will be included in the current list of Essential Community Providers, which can be accessed from the same website. The website offers supplemental information regarding this designation as well as other resources such as FAQs. Please contact your Colorado Access representative if you have any questions.