



Wellcare By Meridian Aligned D-SNP – FAQs

Background: On January 1, 2026, Meridian will launch an aligned Fully Integrated Dual Eligible Special Needs Plan (FIDE-SNP), Wellcare By Meridian. Aligned D-SNPs, also called Applicable Integrated Plans (AIPs), are Medicare Advantage plans that have a model of care and benefits designed for dual eligible individuals who have Medicare and Medicaid, *and* whose benefits must be managed by one healthcare organization. Centene is the parent company of Wellcare (Medicare Advantage) and Wellcare By Meridian.

What is the name of Meridian’s aligned D-SNP?

Our Wellcare By Meridian aligned D-SNP will include “Dual Align” as part of the plan name. The new plan name and logo are shown above and will be on plan materials.

Will there be a change to payment schedules or rates?

- Complete details for services covered by Medicare and Medicaid will be published in the Wellcare By Meridian Explanation of Payment (EOP). Connect with your Provider Engagement or Contracting & Network Development representative about rate or payment schedules.

How are claims submitted?

- The preferred, quickest claims submission method is via EDI. Or login to the Meridian secure provider portal at ILmeridian.com/providers or to Availity Essentials to manage claims and other tasks, including:
 - Submitting claims
 - Checking claims status
 - Submitting authorizations
 - Checking eligibility and benefits

If your organization is new to Availity, register today to get started: availity.com/multi-payer-portal-registration.

Additional options will be outlined in the forthcoming Wellcare By Meridian Provider Manual to be published to the Wellcare By Meridian website, at wellcare.ILmeridian.com.

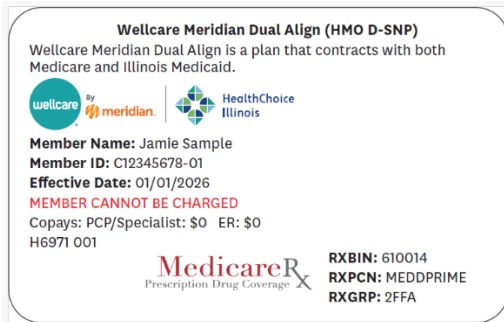
Will there be changes to member benefits?

- Health plan benefit changes are noted in the Annual Notice of Change (ANOC) document mailed to new and transitioning D-SNP members in early fall 2025. The ANOC, Summary of Benefits, and Member Handbook are available online via the *2026 Plan Benefit Materials* web page.



How can I identify Wellcare By Meridian D-SNP members?

- **Beginning January 1, 2026**, members will present their Wellcare By Meridian ID card with combined Wellcare By Meridian and Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) logos. (The example below is illustrative.)



Who do I contact for questions regarding the new aligned D-SNP?

- Connect with your Provider Engagement or Contracting & Network Development representative for questions.

Meridian Medicare-Medicaid Plan (MMP)

What change is occurring with Medicare-Medicaid Plans (MMPs)?

- Following direction from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), all MMPs will sunset on **December 31, 2025**. Members previously enrolled in an MMP will be eligible to transition to an aligned D-SNP beginning January 1, 2026. Current Meridian MMP members will automatically be enrolled into the Wellcare By Meridian D-SNP.

How are members notified of the changes to their plan?

- Currently enrolled Meridian MMP members will be notified by mail that they are enrolled in our Wellcare By Meridian D-SNP, effective January 1, 2026. Current members may also receive communication via phone, text message, and email to notify them of the change.

I am currently a contracted provider with Meridian MMP, will I have to sign a new contract to continue seeing my patients enrolled in the Wellcare By Meridian D-SNP?

- Amendments were sent to all contracted MMP, Medicare Advantage and Medicaid HCBS providers with the Wellcare By Meridian D-SNP requirements. The amendment automatically becomes effective on January 1, 2026, unless a provider chooses to opt-out of the D-SNP network.



- For questions, through October 31, 2025, call our Internal Contracting Department at [855-688-6589](tel:855-688-6589). Representatives are available Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST. Or email us at internalcontracting@centene.com.
- Contact your Provider Engagement or Contracting & Network Development representative with questions about participation in our network.

What will happen if I submit Meridian MMP claims after January 1, 2026?

- **For dates of service *before* January 1, 2026**, following Medicare requirements, providers will have 12 months after the date of service to submit a claim. Refer to the Wellcare By Meridian Provider Manual for more information on timely filing requirements.
- **For dates of service *after* January 1, 2026**, claims will be re-routed to the correct team for processing under the Wellcare By Meridian D-SNP.

To learn more about FIDE-SNPs, consult the [CMS Medicare Managed Care Manual](#).