Screening Connections

Managed Care Organizations

March 19, 2025

Office of Community Living
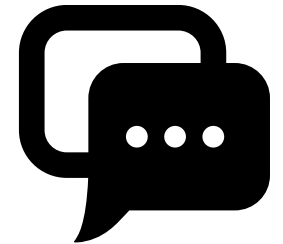
Welcome!

Thank you for your hard work!
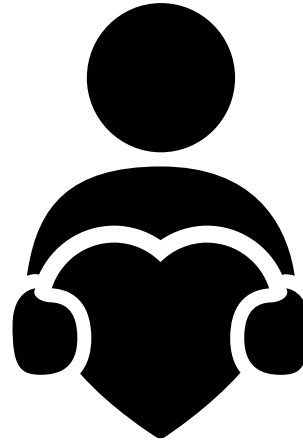
Todays Focus:
Managed Care Organizations

Call Logistics

Post your questions for today's session in the **Chat** box.

Click the **"Chat"** bubble icon at the top of the screen to maximize the Chat feature.

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Virginia's Medicaid Program

DMAS Office of Community Living (OCL)
LTSS Screening Program Staff

Ryan Fines
LTSS Screening Supervisor

Ivy Young
Technical Assistance for Screening Assistance Mailbox, Screening Connections Webex, & Communications

Dena Schall
Technical Assistance for Screening Assistance Mailbox, CBTs, Hospitals, and eMLS

Whitney Singleton
Technical Assistance for Screening Assistance Mailbox, Nursing Facilities, MCOs, PACE and PASRR

Communicating with Screening Assistance

ALL LTSS Screening Questions are sent to <u>ScreeningAssistance@dmas.virginia.gov</u>

- Emails are answered in the order of the receipt, please allow 72 hours for a response.

- Do not reply to your email thread before receiving a response to your original inquiry. This moves your email to the end of the queue.

- Provide enough information for us to research your inquiry and contact you, when necessary. (Your full name, place of employment, phone number, member's identifying information, etc.)

Communicating with Screening Assistance
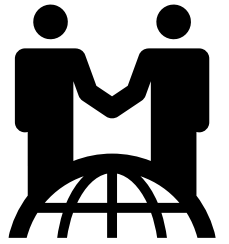
Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and Protected Health Information (PHI)

- **Emails containing PHI MUST be encrypted**
- **Do NOT put names, SSNs, Medicaid numbers, or any other PHI in the subject line**
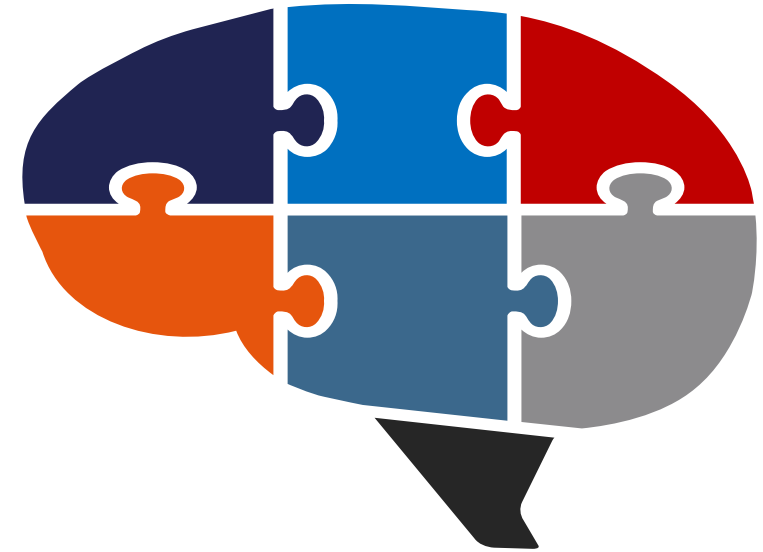- **Screening Assistance will send you a secure email, when requested.**

Failure to encrypt PHI is a HIPAA violation!

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Today's Focus:
Managed Care Organizations

Presented by Whitney Singleton,

LTSS Screening Program Specialist

Today's Agenda:

- **Updates**
- **LTSS Screening Overview**
- **Frequently Asked Questions**
- **Q&A Period**

VCU LTSS Screening Training Portal: UPDATE!

MANDATORY ACCOUNT PASSWORD RESET

The VCU LTSS Screening training portal has updated password security rules.

- Passwords not meeting the new criteria have been reset

- Login to update your password to meet the following criteria:

  ✓ Be **at least 12 characters** in length
  ✓ Contain **at least one uppercase letter** (A-Z)
  ✓ Contain **at least one lowercase letter** (a-z)
  ✓ Contain **at least one number** (0-9)
  ✓ Contain **at least one special character** (e.g., @, #, $, %)

Please update your password by Monday, March 24, 2025

VCU LTSS Screening Training Portal: https://medicaidltss.partnership.vcu.edu/login

For assistance email: ppdtechhelp@vcu.edu

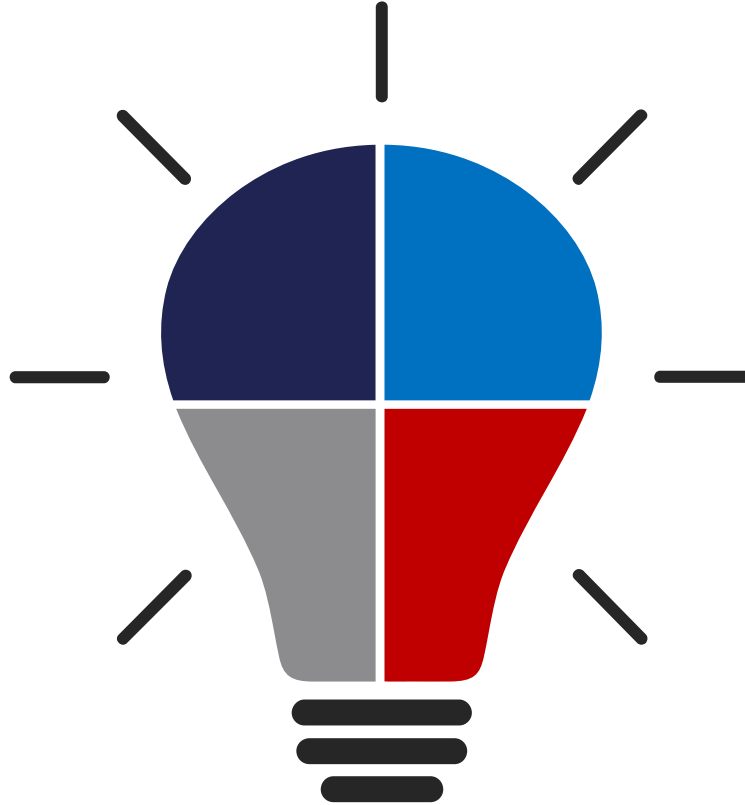# LTSS Screening Training and Manual: UPDATE!

Updates to the LTSS Screening Manual and Training are underway!

A Memo/Bulletin will go out when the updated versions are available.

Memos/Bulletins can be found on the MES homepage:
https://vamedicaid.dmas.virginia.gov/crms

LTSS Screening Overview

LTSS Screening Overview

What is a LTSS Screening?

The LTSS Screening is the initial assessment conducted by authorized entities to assess an individual's functional capacity, medical and nursing needs, and risk to determine if an individual needs a level of care equivalent to that received in a nursing facility, specialized care NF, or long stay hospital.

Individual's functional capacity on a typical day is assessed.

The LTSS Screening authorizes CCC Plus waiver, with or without PDN, PACE, or Nursing Facility Services and can be used to transition between the three LTSS options.

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LTSS Screening Overview

Who is authorized to conduct LTSS Screenings?

Community-Based Team (CBT): includes staff from the local health department and local department of social services

PACE Team: 14 PACE sites across the Commonwealth

Hospital Team: includes acute care, rehabilitation, and rehabilitation units in an acute care setting

Nursing Facility Team: includes skilled and custodial facilities

LTSS Screening Overview

Community Based Screening Team Requirements

The Community-based Team (CBT) is required to conduct Screenings on individuals in a community setting within their locality, who are not already receiving Medicaid LTSS. Screenings are to be completed within 30 days of the request.

Screenings conducted by the CBT must minimally include:

- Registered Nurse (RN) Screener from the local Department of Health (LDH)

- Family Services Specialist (FSS) or Social Worker (SW) Screener from the local Department of Social Services (LDSS)

- Physician Authorizer (Includes NP and PA)

VDH takes the lead role in the Screening process for children. LDSS may or may not participate in the Screening of children.

LTSS Screening Overview

PACE Team Screening Requirements

PACE Screening teams conduct Screenings for individuals who directly request one from the PACE site and individuals referred by the CBT. Screenings are to be completed as soon as possible once requested.

Screenings conducted by a PACE Screening team must minimally include:

- Registered Nurse (RN) Screener

- Physician Authorizer (Includes NP and PA)

LTSS Screenings are required for ALL PACE enrollments regardless of payor source.

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LTSS Screening Overview

Hospital Team Screening Requirements

Hospital Screening Teams are required to conduct Screenings on individuals who are inpatient, Medicaid/Medicaid pending, and needing Medicaid LTSS upon discharge (custodial NF placement, CCC Plus waiver, or PACE); AND for any inpatient individual who requests or is referred for a Screening. Screenings must be completed before the individual discharges.

Screenings conducted by the Hospital team must include:

- Staff designated by the hospital as LTSS Screeners

- Physician Authorizer (Includes NP and PA)

Hospitals are no longer required to conduct LTSS Screenings for individuals discharging to a NF for skilled nursing care/LOC 2. (Medicaid is <u>NOT</u> the primary payor source)

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LTSS Screening Overview

Nursing Facility Team Screening Requirements

Screenings conducted by the Nursing Facility team must minimally include:

- Registered Nurse (RN) Screener
- Physician Authorizer (Includes NP and PA)

Social workers, discharge planners, or other members of the team may be included in the Screening process but are not required.

Screenings done by the NF without a RN Screener are invalid.

NPs CANNOT be both the RN Screener and Physician Authorizer on the same Screening.

LTSS Screening Overview

Nursing Facility Team Screening Requirements

NF Screening Teams are required to conduct Screenings on individuals who admitted skilled (LOC 2) and are transitioning to custodial/long term care (LOC 1) with Medicaid as the intended payor.

- Screening must be completed within 3 business days of the individual's transition to custodial/LTC for Medicaid reimbursement to begin on the date of transition. Day 1 is the day LTC began. This is the **only** scenario in which the LTC Admission date may be prior to the date of the Physician's signature on the Screening.

- When the Screening is NOT completed within 3 business days of LTC initiation, Medicaid reimbursement will begin the date of the Physician's signature on the LTSS Screening.

LTSS Screening Overview

Nursing Facility Team Screening Requirements

NF Screening Teams are also required to conduct Screenings on individuals who are discharging with an interest/need for community-based Medicaid LTSS (CCCPW or PACE) that do not have a valid and/or tangible Screening to pass on;

AND

Any individual who requests or is referred for a Screening.

The Screening must be completed prior to discharge.

LTSS Screening Overview

Nursing Facility Team – Other Screening Scenarios

NF Screening Teams *may* conduct Screenings for individuals residing in the community with an <u>imminent need for NF placement</u> *when* the CBT cannot conduct the Screening within 30 days of the request.

- NF is required to have a documented agreement with the CBT to conduct the Screening and must produce this agreement when requested.

If a NF admits a Medicaid/Medicaid pending individual directly to custodial/LTC without a valid Screening or applicable special circumstance, the <u>6-month penalty applies</u>. The NF team many conduct the Screening but MUST wait 6 months to initiate LTSS NF enrollment and reimbursement.

LTSS Screening Overview

Screening Team Requirements - Variances

In rare instances, DMAS may allow temporary flexibility in the requirements for a Screening team.

Email notification of approved Screening team variances will be sent to all MCO compliance mailboxes.

Look forward to increased communication from our team!

LTSS Screening Overview

LTSS Screening Validity - Timelines

- Individuals have **1 year** from the <u>date of the physician's signature</u> on the Screening to initiate LTSS by enrolling in CCC Plus Waiver, PACE, or Custodial Nursing Facility care.

- Once an individual is ENROLLED in Medicaid LTSS, a screening does NOT expire or need to be updated as long as the individual continues to receive Medicaid LTSS.

- Screenings completed prior to a discharge from a SNF for persons who are enrolled into Medicaid while in the SNF, remain valid for 180 days post SNF discharge. If the individual is not a Medicaid member (non-Medicaid) at SNF discharge, the person has one year from the date of physician's signature on the screening to be enrolled in LTSS. After a year, a new LTSS Screening is required.

- Individuals are allowed **180 days** to transition between LTSS settings or providers. A new screening is required after **180 days**.

- **Individuals who lose financial LTC Medicaid eligibility are allowed <u>180 days</u> to regain eligibility and resume LTSS before a new Screening is required.**

- A new Screening is required whenever an individual is terminated from LTSS because they no longer meet NF LOC criteria.

LTSS Screening Overview

LTSS Screening Validity Basics

- Has all required forms and is in <u>Accepted Authorized</u> status

- Has correct Name, Date of Birth, Medicaid Number, and Social Security Number (except for rare circumstances of adoption or name change).

- Minimum Screening team requirements are met (RN Screener present when required, etc.)

- Be within the General Timelines (listed in previous slide)

These are minimum considerations when validating a Screening and are not all-encompassing.

LTSS Screening Overview

Special Circumstances and Exclusions

Private Pay Individual admitting to NF for custodial care
- Individuals with 100% alternate forms of payment, who are <u>not expected to need Medicaid</u>.
- Private pay status for a minimum of 6 months is no longer a requirement.
- Includes individuals who remain in the NF private pay during a period of Medicaid ineligibility.

COVID PHE Hospital to NF admissions during the dates of 3/13/2020 – 6/30/2021 or 1/10/2022 – 3/22/2022.

Skilled Nursing care (LOC 2) admissions
- This is used ONLY to enter the LOC 2 segment into the LTC portal. LTSS Screening is required for the LOC change to custodial (LOC 1).

Hospice Enrollees admitting to NF

LTSS Screening Overview

Special Circumstances and Exclusions

Direct admissions to a Virginia NF for custodial care (LOC 1):

- Out of state residents (community setting)
- Inpatient of an out of state hospital
- Inpatient of an in-state or out-of-state veteran's or military hospital
- Patient or resident of a DBHDS facility

Applicable special circumstances should be documented and retained in the member's record.

LOC changes for individuals without a Screening, who admitted to a NF prior to July 1, 2019, will need to be escalated to DMAS for review and portal entry.

Special circumstances have been updated in the LTC portal. Updates to the DMAS 80 are in progress.

LTSS Screening Overview

Screening Corrections

When an error on the Screening is preventing LTSS enrollment and attempts to request a correction from the Screening entity are unsuccessful, please notify LTSS Screening program staff by sending an email to ScreeningAssistance@dmas.virginia.gov.

- Minimum of 3 outreach attempts, on separate days, allowing reasonable response time, before escalating to DMAS.

- Include details of the outreach in your email

Screening corrections are not typically performed for Screenings older than 1 year.

LTSS Screening Overview
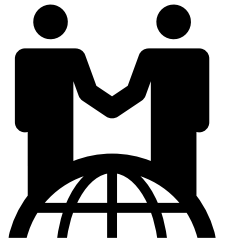
Requests for LTSS Screenings

Please be responsive to LTSS providers who are requesting a copy of an individual's Screening to initiate services.

Do NOT distribute copies of Screenings that are NOT-Authorized.

Notify LTSS providers when Screenings are not valid and assist the individual with requesting a new Screening.

Individuals actively enrolled in the CCC Plus waiver, do NOT need a new Screening to transition to a new provider.

Send an email to Screening Assistance if you do not have a copy of the Screening.

LTSS Screening Overview

LTSS Screening and the LTC Portal

Active SNF (LOC 2) segments in the LTC portal are to be end dated when the LOC change to custodial/ICF (LOC 1) is denied due to an invalid or missing Screening.

Notify the Nursing Facility of the action taken and the Screening requirement.

Frequently Asked Questions
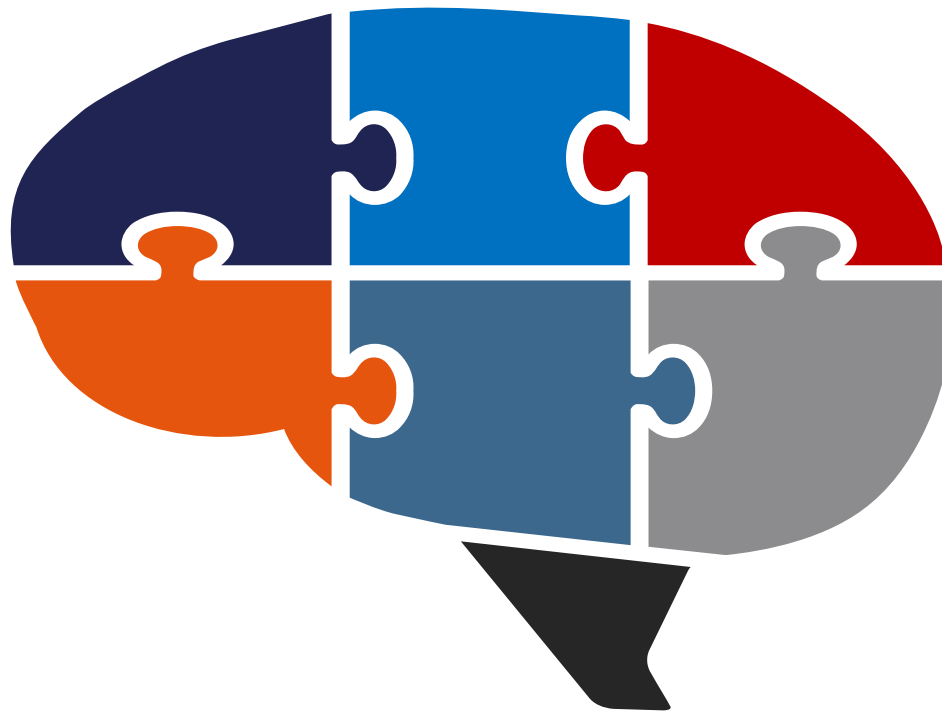
Frequently Asked Questions:
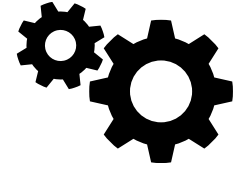
Topic: Screening Validity

Q: If an individual loses financial LTC Medicaid while in the custodial NF, do they need a new LTSS Screening when they regain eligibility?

A: Individuals are allowed 180 days to regain LTC Medicaid eligibility and reconnect to LTSS before a new LTSS Screening is required. If an individual loses eligibility for a period greater than 180 days but remained in the NF as private pay, the facility may utilize the private pay exclusion and should indicate this on the DMAS 80.

Frequently Asked Questions:
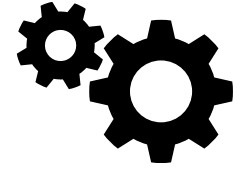
Topic: Screening Validity

Q: An individual's name has changed since the Screening was conducted. Does the Screening need to be corrected to reflect their current name?

A: If the Screening accurately reflects what the individual's name was when the Screening was conducted, a correction is not needed. If you are unable to determine this, please send an email to Screening Assistance.

Frequently Asked Questions:
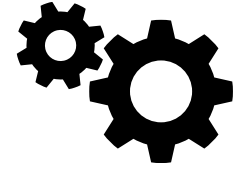
Topic: Screening Validity

Q: If during the 6-month penalty, the individual transitions to a different Nursing Facility or discharges home and wishes to initiate community-based LTSS, does the 6-month penalty still apply?

A: No. The 6-month penalty is applicable **<u>ONLY</u>** to the NF who admitted the individual without a valid Screening or applicable special circumstance. If the individual transitions to a new LTSS setting or provider, the Screening conducted by the NF under penalty shall be accepted without delay.

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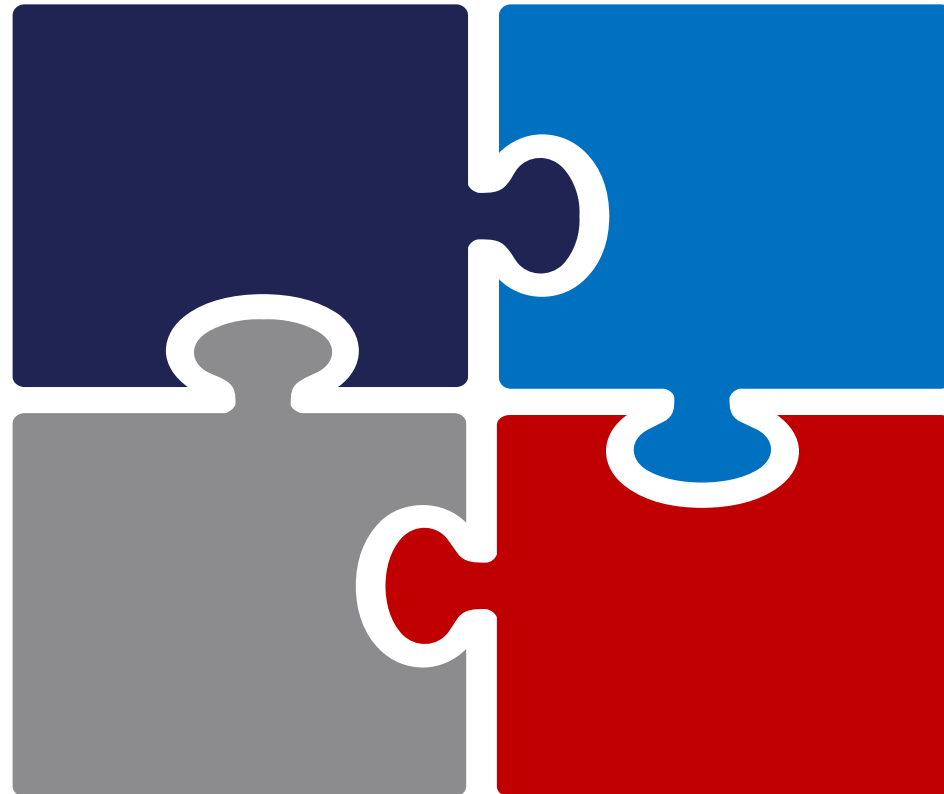
Resources:

Resources

MES MCO Providers Homepage
https://vamedicaid.dmas.virginia.gov/provider/mco

- Manuals Library
- Memos & Bulletins Library
- Forms Library

Note: LTSS Screening manual updates are in progress

Resources

Connection Call Presentations

Posted on the DMAS Website within 7-10 days: www.dmas.virginia.gov

Under the Provider Tab, select from dropdown- Benefits and Services, then select Long Term Care, Programs and Initiatives, and LTSS Screening.

SCREENING CONNECTIONS FOR LTSS

Look down the page for list of Screening Connection calls
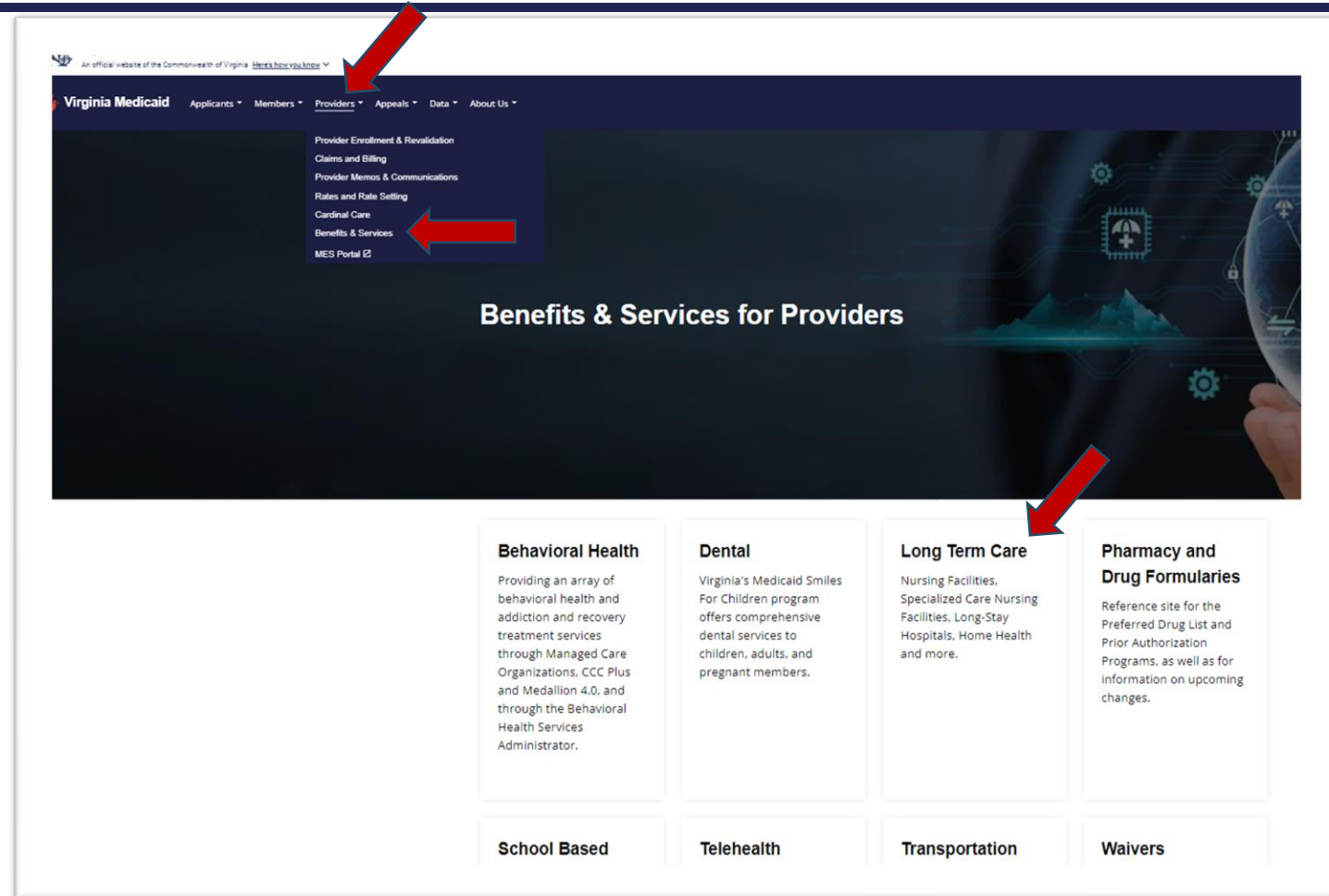
Resources

VCU Medicaid LTSS Screening Training Portal

https://medicaidltss.partnership.vcu.edu/login

- Log-in Using your email address and created password
- To Access the Training Modules, go to helpful Links – eLearning Modules

Technical Assistance Email: PPDTechHelp@vcu.edu

Note: Training updates are in progress

Resources
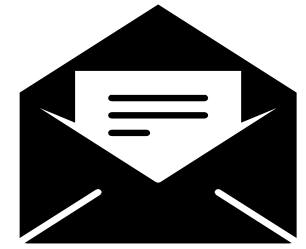
Need Help?

Questions about the LTSS Screening process, policy, general eMLS, or requests for copies of screenings go to: ScreeningAssistance@dmas.Virginia.gov

MES (computer system issues) , CRMS: MES-Assist@dmas.Virginia.gov

LTSS Screening training VCU technical issues: ppdtechhelp@vcu.edu

MCO CCC Plus waiver inquiries: mcowaiverteam@dmas.virginia.gov

General CCMC (Non-waiver) inquiries: CCCPlusMCOs@dmas.virginia.gov

LOCERI inquiries: LOCreview@dmas.virginia.gov

Share Information with your Team

**A copy of this presentation will be available
on the DMAS website within 7 days.**

**MCO staff members in communication with Screening Assistance
may be extended an invitation to this webinar.**

LTSS Screening MCO Connection Call Schedule

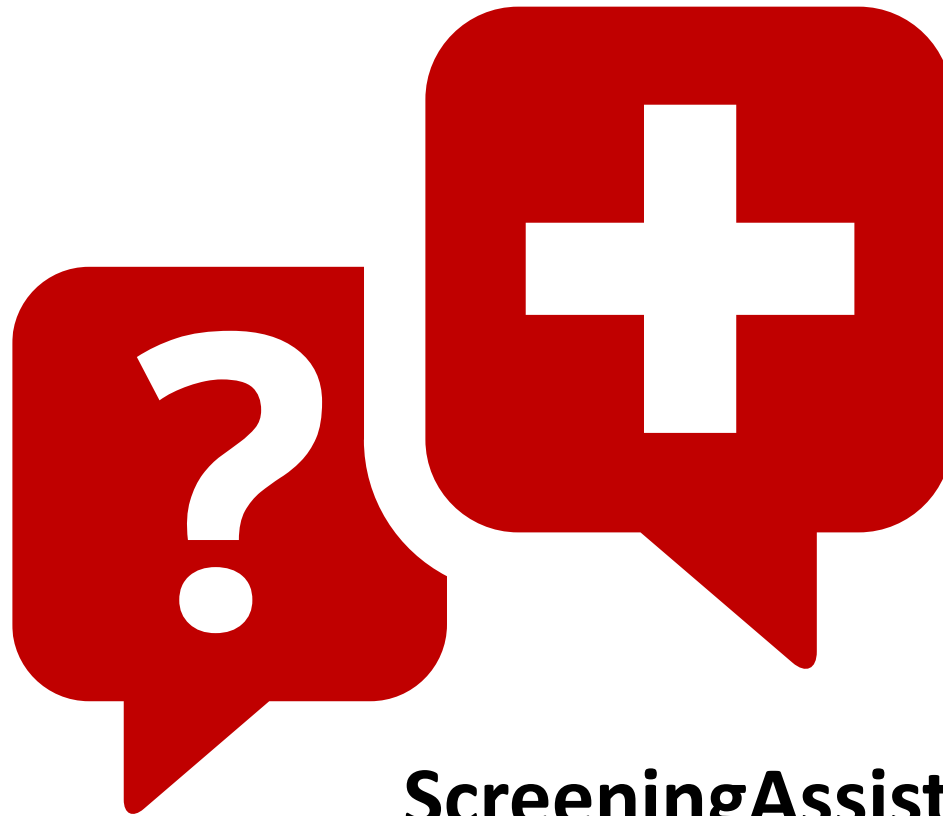| 2025				
	QUARTER 1	QUARTER 2	QUARTER 3	QUARTER 4
Managed Care Organizations	**March 19**	June 18	September 17	December 17

Save the Date:

The next MCO Connection Call will be held on Wednesday, June 18, 2025

Question and Answer

ScreeningAssistance@dmas.virginia.gov

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