



## COMBINED MEDICAID 302-2 Temporary Absence from the Home

**Supersedes:** FMA 302-2; 01/01/04

**Reference:** 42 CFR 435.403; ARM 37.82.101, .402

**Overview:** Medicaid may continue for clients during temporary absences from the home (for ACA/Family medically needy, this includes temporary absences of either the specified caretaker relative or the needy child) if:

1. The absent member continues to consider the home as their place of residence during the period of absence and intends to return to the same home; and
2. **ACA and Family Medically Needy:** While the child is temporarily away from home, the specified caretaker relative continues to exercise responsibility for the care and control of the child, which includes making plans for the child; or
3. The absent member is expected to return to the household within 90 days, or has good cause for not returning within 90 days

If the conditions above are met, Medicaid continues unchanged. If an individual has left the home and is not expected to return, their Medicaid coverage is ended.

### **TEMPORARY VISITS:**

**ACA and Family Medically Needy:** Minor children who usually live with a custodial parent or caretaker relative and are visiting their non-custodial parent or another caretaker relative for a temporary visit (not to exceed 90 days) are not considered to be living with the non-custodial parent, and could remain eligible in the custodial parent's household.

### **MEDICAL CARE:**

An individual away for the sole purpose of receiving medical care is NOT considered temporarily absent and is NOT subject to the 90-day rule. If otherwise eligible, the individual continues to receive Medicaid for as long as they are receiving medical treatment.

### **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:**

A dependent child away from home for the sole purpose of attending a school or other educational facility (i.e., 18 year old away at college) is not subject to the temporarily absence rule. If otherwise eligible, the child continues to receive assistance.

### **INMATE OF A PUBLIC INSTITUTION:**

An individual who is an inmate of a public institution, such as Pine Hills or the Deer Lodge State Prison, is NOT considered to be temporarily absent. An individual is considered an inmate of a public institution from the date of actual incarceration in a prison, county, city or tribal jail until permanent release, bail, probation or parole. **The individual MAY be eligible to receive assistance under certain circumstances.**

**GOOD CAUSE:**

When a required filing unit member is temporarily absent for longer than 90 days, but has good cause for not returning (such as military personnel, away for employment, etc.), that individual remains included in the filing and, if appropriate, assistance units and their income and resources are counted in full. See Good Cause in FMA 1508-1.

**Effective Date:** July 01, 2016

**Revised:** January 11, 2024