

Required access to breast pumps and WIC for expecting Medi-Cal members

Thank you for the care your practitioners provide for our Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan members who are expecting. We rely on our Medi-Cal network clinical colleagues to deliver high-quality care to our members who are under your care, throughout their pregnancy and post-partem phases. Part of this care includes ensuring that members have access to Medi-Cal plan benefits to which they are entitled.

We are writing to remind you of the appropriate timing for supporting some of their maternity benefits.

- **Please order breast pumps near the end of the third trimester.** Medi-Cal plan members are not required to take any pre-natal education or lactation courses to receive a breast pump. Breast pumps are [covered by the Affordable Care Act](#) and by Medi-Cal as durable medical equipment.
- **Please refer expecting patients to the [Women, Infants & Children \(WIC\)](#) program as early as the first trimester** to help them receive not only nutrition education and healthy foods but also breastfeeding support and referrals to health care and other community programs. WIC serves infants and children up to age 5 and people who are pregnant, have recently given birth, or have experienced a pregnancy loss.

Thank you for working with us to meet the needs of our expecting members. Should you have any questions, please call our Maternity Program team at **(888) 802-4410**, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. PT.

To learn more about our Maternity Program, Maternal Mental Health Services, or Doula Services, please visit the [Maternity Program page](#) on the Blue Shield Promise provider website.