

Health Care Program] MARYLAND CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM established under [§ 15-301] §§ 15-301 AND 15-301.1 of this subtitle.

(b) (1) An application may be disapproved if it is determined that an individual under the age of 19 years to be covered under the [Children and Families Health Care Program] MARYLAND CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM [established under § 15-301 of this subtitle], for whom the application was submitted, was covered by an employer sponsored health benefit plan with dependent coverage which was voluntarily terminated within 6 months preceding the date of the application.

(2) In determining whether an applicant has voluntarily terminated coverage under an employer sponsored health benefit plan for purposes of paragraph (1) of this subsection, a voluntary termination may not be construed to include:

(i) Loss of employment due to factors other than voluntary termination;

(ii) Change to a new employer that does not provide an option for dependent coverage;

(iii) Change of address so that no employer sponsored health benefit plan is available;

(iv) Discontinuation of health benefits to all dependents of employees of the applicant's employer; or

(v) Expiration of the applicant's continuation of coverage under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA).

15-303.

(a) (1) The Department shall be responsible for enrolling program recipients [into] IN managed care organizations AND EMPLOYER-SPONSORED HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS under the [Children and Families Health Care Program] MARYLAND CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM established under [§ 15-301] §§ 15-301 AND 15-301.1 of this subtitle.

(2) The Department may contract with an entity to perform any part or all of its enrollment responsibilities under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(3) The Department or its enrollment contractor, to the extent feasible in its marketing, outreach, and enrollment programs, shall hire individuals receiving assistance under the Family Investment Program established under Article 88A of the Code.

(b) (1) To the extent allowed under federal law and regulations, the Secretary shall implement expedited eligibility for any individual who applies for the [Children and Families Health Care Program] MARYLAND CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM under [§ 15-301] §§ 15-301 AND 15-301.1 of this subtitle.

(2) The Secretary shall designate organizations that may:

(i) Assist individuals in the application process; and