

Prior Authorization Waiver Expiration: Post-Acute Discharge

Effective **December 31, 2021**, Healthfirst has waived authorization requirements for transfers or discharges from an acute inpatient facility to another acute inpatient facility, a skilled nursing facility (SNF), acute rehabilitation facility (AR), or long-term acute care hospital (LTACH). This decision was made in advance of the Department of Financial Services' (DFS) Insurance Circular Letter No. 1 (2022), dated January 6, 2022, and Supp. No. 1 to Circular Letter No. 1 (2022) dated February 3, 2022.

DFS Circular Letter No.1 and Supp. No. 1 have expired; therefore, as of **Monday March 21, 2022**, Healthfirst **will require authorization for transfers or discharges** from an acute inpatient facility to another acute inpatient facility, a skilled nursing facility (SNF), acute rehabilitation facility (AR), or long-term acute care hospital (LTACH).

Healthfirst will continue to adhere to the institutional certifications received from facilities per DFS Insurance Circular Letter No. 9 (2021), dated October 7, 2021 entitled [Hospital Staffing and Suspension of Utilization Review Requirements and Appeal Timeframes](#).

If you have any questions, please contact your Network Account Manager, or call Provider Services at **1-888-801-1660**, Monday to Friday, 8:30am–5:30pm.

Coverage is provided by Healthfirst Health Plan, Inc., Healthfirst PHSP, Inc., and/or Healthfirst Insurance Company, Inc. (together, "Healthfirst").