For Some Noncitizens, Federal Medicaid Will Change This Year.

Starting Oct. 1, 2026, some noncitizens will no longer qualify for Medicaid health coverage.

A new federal law passed by Congress and signed by President Trump is changing who can get Medicaid. This law applies to adult noncitizens, but not to children or pregnant people.

If you are a Medicaid member, update your contact info so you don't miss important updates.

Noncitizen Medicaid Eligibility as of Oct. 1, 2026

NONCITIZEN STATUS	ADULT (NOT PREGNANT)	CHILDREN UNDER 21
Lawful permanent residents - green card holder*	Eligible	Eligible
Cuban/Haitian entrants	Eligible	Eligible
Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants	Eligible	Eligible
Asylees and refugees	**Not Eligible**	Eligible
Paroled into the U.S. for at least one year	**Not Eligible**	Eligible
Granted conditional entry	**Not Eligible**	Eligible
Victims of domestic violence	**Not Eligible**	Eligible
Victims of human trafficking	**Not Eligible**	Eligible
Granted withholding of deportation	**Not Eligible**	Eligible
Humanitarian parolees including Afghan and Ukrainian parole programs	**Not Eligible**	Eligible
All other non-citizen statuses not listed here	**Not Eligible**	**Not Eligible**

Pregnant People

Lawfully present noncitizens who are pregnant can enroll in Medicaid. Other noncitizens can enroll in the Healthy Babies Program regardless of immigration status. This covers care during pregnancy and for up to four months following the birth of a baby.

*Most green card holders must wait 5 years before they can get Medicaid, unless they qualify for a special exception.

Children

Children under age 21 who are lawfully present in the U.S. can still get Medicaid, even if their parents or family members cannot get coverage. Only the specific family members who are applying for coverage will need to share citizenship or immigration status.

Find Help

For questions about these changes or to determine if you qualify for coverage, contact Maryland Health Connection or MD Benefits.

If you have Medicaid or MCHP health coverage:

- Login to your account at MarylandHealthConnection.gov.
- Call Maryland Health Connection at 855-642-8572. Help is available in more than 200 languages. Deaf and hard of hearing use Relay service.
- Call or visit your local Department of Social Services or your local health department.

If you have coverage through MD Benefits:

- Login to your account at benefits.maryland.gov.
- Call the DHS Call Center at 800-332-6347. Help is available in more than 200 languages. Deaf and hard of hearing use Relay service.
- Call or visit your local Department of Social Services or your local health department.

For community resources, dial 2-1-1 or visit 211md.org.

For information about free or affordable health care services in your county, contact your local health department.

For more information, please visit https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/eligibility/Pages/immigrationstatusreqirements.aspx.

Maryland wants you to stay covered. **Visit MarylandHealthConnection.gov/Checkin** or scan the QR code to learn more.