

Staying Updated on Changes to Medicaid (Medical Assistance) and Protecting Your Coverage



A recent law has created new Medicaid rules for some **adults**. **To keep your health coverage, you may need to take action.** You can still use your benefits, renew your coverage, and get healthcare while these changes take effect.



KEEP IN MIND...

There are **NO CHANGES** to Medicaid/CHIP for children under 19 or foster youth/former foster youth under age 26.

ARE YOU AN ADULT ALREADY ON MEDICAID?

To stay updated about Medicaid changes and new rules, you should:

- **Watch for mail:** Read ALL mail and/or COMPASS messages carefully!
- Visit dhs.pa.gov/text to sign up for texts and **get faster notifications**

Need to change your address?

Visit [USPS.com/move](https://usps.com/move) to update your address or go to your local Post Office to update in person!

Don't forget! – To ensure updates and renewal paperwork is received, **update your info in one of these ways:**

- COMPASS:
 - ONLINE: Confirm and update addresses and other contact information in the myCOMPASS PA mobile app (available for free from Google Play or the App Store) or through your COMPASS account at compass.state.pa.us

OR

- BY PHONE: Call the Statewide Customer Service Center at **1-877-395-8930**

NEED HELP WITH A MEDICAID APPLICATION?

Contact PA Health Access Network (PHAN) at pahealthaccess.org or by calling/texting **(877) 570-3642**

IF YOU LOSE YOUR MEDICAID COVERAGE

Apply to Pennie: enroll.pennie.com
Utilize Community Health Centers (FQHCs): my.pachc.org

Was it an error?

Mistakes happen – consider an appeal! Find support here: phlp.org or here: palegalaid.net

SHARE YOUR MEDICAID STORY AND STAY UPDATED

Sharing your story and experiences can help Policymakers understand the real life impact.



← **Share your story here!**

We're still learning more about these changes. As we learn more, this document will be updated on our website: alliesforchildren.org

What Adults Need to Know About Changes to Medicaid (Medical Assistance)



KEEP IN MIND...

There are **NO CHANGES** to Medicaid/CHIP for children under 19 or foster youth/former foster youth under age 26.

IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR ADULTS

New Requirements for Some Adults Ages 19-64

Individuals in this Medicaid group qualify based on income alone.

Starting in January 2027

- **EVERYONE** in this group must renew coverage every six months instead of once a year
- **SOME INDIVIDUALS** in this group must work, be in school, and/or participate in community engagement, like volunteering, for at least 80 hours a month. However, some people don't have to meet these new rules.

The new work requirements will not apply if you are...

- Age 65 or older
- Under age 19
- Enrolled in Medicare Part A or B
- Disabled (SSI or SSDI) or a disabled veteran
- Are an American Indian or Alaskan Native
- A parent, guardian or caregiver of a child under 14* OR a person with a disability
- Pregnant or in one-year Medicaid postpartum coverage period
- "Medically frail" or special medical needs
- Participating in substance use treatment program
- Compliant with TANF or SNAP work requirement
- Incarcerated currently or within prior 3 months
- Foster youth/former foster youth under age 26

*Parents or related caretakers of a child under 18 will not have to worry about the work requirements.

Remember to watch for mail and COMPASS notices to see if these exemptions or requirements apply to you. *If you're not sure, ask your County Assistance Office!*****

Need help? Find legal assistance here: palegalaid.net or application support here: pahealthaccess.org

We're still learning more about these changes. As we learn more, this document will be updated on our website: alliesforchildren.org

What Immigrants Need to Know About Changes to Medicaid (Medical Assistance)

IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR IMMIGRANTS

Lawfully Present children under 21 are exempt from the following!

Starting October 1, 2026, adult immigrants must belong to one of these groups to keep or get federal coverage:

- **Green Card Holders who have had their card for 5 years or more** (Note: Refugees, Asylees, Victims of Human Trafficking, Veterans, and Active Duty Military do not have to wait 5 years and are eligible once they receive their Green Card)
- **Cuban-Haitian Entrants**
- **COFA Migrants** (from the Marshall Islands, Micronesia, or Palau)
- **Pregnant or Recently Pregnant Individuals** (within 12 months of giving birth)

Important Exceptions

- Emergency Medical Assistance (EMA) remains available
- Adults with very low incomes who do not meet federal rules may qualify for Pennsylvania state-funded Medicaid. Check with your County Assistance Office to see if you qualify.

What You Should Do Next

- **Read and reply to your mail:** Letters started going out in June 2026. If you receive a notice from your County Assistance Office and don't have any questions, respond to the letter.
- **Update your information:** Make sure your local office has a copy of your Green Card, knows if you are pregnant or recently gave birth, and has the correct ages for your children.
- **Update your address:** Use the myCOMPASS PA app, visit compass.state.pa.us, or call 1-877-395-8930 so you do not miss messages or updates.

Not sure about your status or have questions?

Talk to your immigration lawyer or contact local legal resources like [Hello Neighbor](#) or [JFCS Pittsburgh](#).

If you are eligible for a Green Card but haven't applied yet, doing this can help you get coverage sooner.



Hello Neighbor



JFCS Pittsburgh

We're still learning more about these changes. As we learn more, this document will be updated on our website: alliesforchildren.org