

New MaineCare Coverage for Immigrants is Here!

Starting **July 1, 2022**, people with qualifying income who are **under the age of 21** or who are **pregnant** are eligible to receive full MaineCare benefits, regardless of their immigration status!

What is MaineCare?

MaineCare is the state's Medicaid program which provides **free and low-cost health insurance** to Mainers who meet <u>eligibility requirements</u>, including household income, age, or pregnancy.

Who is gaining coverage?

Children under the age of 21 and **pregnant people** who would qualify for MaineCare or CubCare (CHIP) except for their immigration status. This includes people who are undocumented and those who have not yet filed for asylum or who cannot yet verify their immigration status.

How do you sign-up?

If you already have Emergency MaineCare and you're under 21 or pregnant, you will <u>automatically</u> be enrolled in the new full coverage. If you have Emergency MaineCare and then become pregnant, it's important to notify the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) as soon as possible.

If you don't have Emergency MaineCare, you can apply for MaineCare online at My Maine Connection or download the application here and send it to DHHS through the mail, by email, or drop it off at a DHHS office.

Will signing up impact my immigration case?

No! Your immigration status will not be reported to federal authorities and getting help with healthcare, food, housing, and other basic needs will not affect your ability to get a green card or U.S. citizenship in the future

Updated: January 1, 2024

How long can you keep your new coverage?

- **Children:** As long as your household income is within the eligibility guideline, you can keep your coverage until you turn 21. You will need to complete your annual recertification with DHHS. If your immigration status changes, you may be eligible in a different MaineCare category.
- **Pregnant People:** You will receive 12 months of postpartum coverage after birth or after the pregnancy ends. Your infant(s) will automatically be eligible for MaineCare for one year after birth.

Who is currently eligible for full MaineCare?

- **U.S. Citizens** regardless of their family members' immigration status
- Refugees & Asylees
- **Asylum seekers** who are under 21 or pregnant
- **Legal Permanent Residents** who have had their green card for more than 5 years or who have had their green card for less than 5 years and are pregnant or under 21 years old
- Undocumented, have not begun the asylum process, or have an uncertain immigration status and are under 21 or pregnant
- Haitian or Cuban entrants
- Survivors of domestic violence who have been in the U.S. for more than 5 years or who are under 21 or pregnant
- **Parolees** who have been paroled into the U.S. for at least one year and under 21 or pregnant or those who have been paroled into the U.S. for at least 5 years

Need Assistance?

If you need help signing up for MaineCare, please contact <u>Consumers for Affordable Healthcare</u> at: 1-800-965-7476.

If you are not yet eligible for full MaineCare and want to join in the fight to expand MaineCare to ALL immigrants, regardless of age or immigration status, please contact Alex Carter at Maine Equal Justice, acarter@meip.org.