



Mental health  
advocacy, education  
and support.

# Applying for Medicaid

## Who is eligible:

Medicaid is intended for low-income families with incomes near the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Children ages 0-18 with family income level up to 142% of the FPL; Pregnant women with family income up to 208% of the FPL; Adults with family income up to 133% of the FPL.

Illinois adults may be eligible for Medicaid health insurance if family incomes are below:

\$13,663 per year for a 1-person family

\$18,393 per year for a 2-person family

\$23,135 per year for a 3-person family

\$27,871 per year for a 4-person family

\*Incomes calculated as 133% of the 2017 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for each family size.

**Apply Online:** [abe.illinois.gov](http://abe.illinois.gov)

**Apply by Mail or Fax:** Download and print the application or call to request the application in the mail 800-843-6154

**Apply In Person:** Set up an appointment with a Healthcare Navigator; call 866-311-1119, go to [GetCoveredIllinois.gov](http://GetCoveredIllinois.gov) or walk in to your local Family Community Resource Center

## What happens next?

The application process begins the day your Department of Human Services office receives your signed application. You may have to complete an interview at the office or by phone, and you may be asked for various types of documentation such as:

- proof of your identity
- proof of your residence
- proof of Social Security numbers for all people on your application
- other types of documents depending on your circumstances

If you set up an appointment, you can ask what documents to bring.

## Need Help with the Application?

Healthcare Navigators from Get Covered Illinois are available to assist with the application over the phone or by scheduling an appointment, call 866-311-1119 or go to [GetCoveredIllinois.gov](http://GetCoveredIllinois.gov).



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## After Applying:

You will be notified by mail of your Medicaid approval or denial.

Many regions of Illinois are utilizing Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) to provide options for your Medicaid Health Insurance Plan. You will have up to 90 days to choose a Health Plan and a Primary Care Provider. If you do not choose a Managed Care Health Plan you will be automatically assigned.

- A Health Plan is a group of “in-network” doctors, hospitals, therapists and other providers who work together to provide your healthcare.  
Some Health Insurance Plans in Illinois include: Aetna Better Health, Blue Cross Community Health Plan, County Care, Family Health Network, Harmony Health Plan, Illini Care Health, Meridian, Molina, Next Level, Humana, Cigna Health Spring, Community Care Alliance, and many more.
- A Primary Care Provider (PCP) is the doctor or clinic you go to when you are sick or need a checkup.

Need help choosing a Health Plan and a Primary Care Provider? The Illinois Client Enrollment Services is available to assist at [enrollhfs.illinois.gov](http://enrollhfs.illinois.gov) or by calling 1-877-912-8880. *You must pick a plan every year when you renew your Medicaid coverage.*



Make sure to keep your address up to date, read your mail carefully and call for help if you have questions.

If you have complex healthcare needs, you may be assigned a Care Coordinator through your Managed Care Organization.

### What does a Care Coordinator do?

- Ensures you have a primary care provider (PCP) who oversees your medical care and refers to specialists as needed.
- Develops a comprehensive person-centered care plan and works with your care team to address all of your medical, behavioral health, functional, and psychosocial needs.
- Helps you to navigate the healthcare system and find providers.

**To contact your Care Coordinator**, call the number on the back of your insurance card and ask if a Care Coordinator has been assigned to you. The Care Coordinator can provide you referrals to specialists (ex: psychiatrist) and behavioral health providers (therapist or inpatient and outpatient treatment facilities) that are covered by your insurance.

Information from:

<http://www.illinois.gov/hfs/MedicalProviders/cc/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://getcovered.illinois.gov/en>

<https://www.healthinsurance.org/illinois-medicaid/>

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/01/31/2017-02076/annual-update-of-the-hhs-poverty-guidelines>