

Medicaid and Me

My child does not have health insurance right now. Is he eligible now for Medicaid or CHIP?

Children who are eligible now do not have to wait until October 1, 2013 to enroll or January 1, 2014 to be covered! States have different income eligibility requirements, but in most states, uninsured children 18 years old and younger whose annual family incomes are up to \$45,000 (for a family of four) can qualify for either [Medicaid](#) or [CHIP](#). In many States, family income can be even higher and children can still qualify.

The Health Insurance Marketplace will tell you whether you qualify for [Medicaid](#) or the [Children's Health Insurance Program \(CHIP\)](#). You can also call **1-877 KIDS NOW (1-877-543-7669)** or go to [Programs in Your State](#) to find state-specific information about Medicaid and CHIP. When you call our free and confidential hotline, you will be directly connected to your State's programs. Staff can help you learn whether your children might qualify and help you enroll them.

My child and I already have Medicaid. Do I need to do anything else?

If you are happy with your health insurance, you don't have to do anything! In existing plans, the health care law offers new rights, consumer protections, and benefits like free [preventive health care](#).

My child has Medicaid, but can parents apply for coverage?

Parents, older siblings, and grandparents under age 65 may qualify for coverage. The health care law provides states the choice and additional federal funding to expand their [Medicaid](#) programs to cover people who make up to 133% of the federal poverty level (about \$31,300 for a family of four in 2013). Some states are expanding their Medicaid programs in 2014. Other states are choosing not to. Even if your loved ones were told they didn't qualify for Medicaid in the past, they may qualify under the new rules. Spread the word!

How can I apply?

You can apply online, by phone, by mail, or in person. Visit <https://www.healthcare.gov/> or call 1-800-318-2596 for more details.

In addition to income, what are the other requirements?

To be eligible for health coverage, you must be a U.S. citizen or a non-citizen who is lawfully present in the U.S. for the entire period for which enrollment is sought.

When will Medicaid coverage start for newly eligible parents, older siblings and grandparents under age 65?

Coverage varies by state. Visit <https://www.healthcare.gov/> or call 1-800-318-2596 to find out more!