

# Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility Manual

## Chapter M23 FAMIS Prenatal Coverage

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### Chapter M23 Changes

Date Converted to New Template: February 2026

Changed With	Effective Date	Sections Changed
TN #DMAS-34	1/1/25	Pages 6 & 7 Page 7a is added
TN #DMAS-33	10/1/24	Page 7
TN #DMAS-31	4/1/24	Appendix 1
TN #DMAS-30	1/1/24	Pages 1, 6, 7, 8
TN #DMAS-28	7/1/23	Appendix 1
TN #DMAS-25	10/1/22	Pages 5 & 6. Adjust pages 7-8
TN #DMAS-24	7/1/22	Page 6
TN #DMAS-23	4/1/22	Page 6 Appendix 1, page 1
TN #DMAS-21	10/1/21	Pages 6, 7

TN – Transmittal

UP - Update

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# Subchapter M2310: FAMIS Prenatal Coverage

Last Subchapter Revision Date: April 2026

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## M2310 CHANGES

Changed With	Effective Date	Sections Changed
TN #DMAS-38	April 2026	M2310.100
TN #DMAS-30	January 2024	M2310

TN – Transmittal

UP – Update

# SECTION M02310.100: FAMIS PRENATAL COVERAGE

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Last Section Revision Date: April 2026

### A. Introduction

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The 2021 Special Sessions I Appropriations Act directed the Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) to amend the Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan (FAMIS) and expand medical coverage to uninsured pregnant women and their unborn children:

- who are ineligible for full-benefit Medicaid or FAMIS Moms due to the woman's immigration status, and
- whose Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) household income is less than or equal to 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL).

FAMIS Prenatal Coverage is effective beginning July 1, 2021.

Eligibility for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage is determined by either the local DSS, including a VDSS out stationed site, or the Cover Virginia Central Processing Unit (CPU). Applications processed by the Cover Virginia CPU will be transferred to the appropriate local DSS for case maintenance.

Eligible women are enrolled for benefits effective the first day of the application month if all eligibility requirements are met in that month. There is no retroactive coverage in FAMIS Prenatal Coverage. If the woman applies for coverage after the month in which the child is born but within the application's retroactive period, she may be eligible for Medicaid coverage of the labor and delivery as emergency services if the woman's countable MAGI household income is within the Medicaid limit. See M0220.400.

Pregnant women found eligible for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage receive the same benefits as Medicaid and FAMIS MOMS pregnant women, including comprehensive dental services.

An eligible woman will receive coverage through her pregnancy and the end of the month in which the 60<sup>th</sup> day following the end of the pregnancy occurs (*with birth or for any reason*). An infant born to a woman enrolled in FAMIS Prenatal Coverage will receive ongoing coverage beginning on the date of the infant's birth and ending 12 months after the child's birth month. The infant's coverage will be in Medicaid or FAMIS, based on the mother's MAGI household unit income at the time of application. The infant's birth is evaluated as a case change; an application does not need to be submitted for the infant.

## B. Policy Principles

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FAMIS Prenatal Coverage covers uninsured low-income pregnant women who are not eligible for Medicaid or FAMIS MOMS due to the woman's immigration status and whose countable income is less than or equal to 200% of the FPL.

A pregnant woman **of any age** is eligible for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage if all of the following are met:

- she applies for coverage while pregnant or in the month of the birth of her infant child,
- she does not meet the definition of a **lawfully residing noncitizen pregnant woman in M0220.314**,
- she is a resident of Virginia,
- she is uninsured,
- she is not an inmate of a public institution,
- she is not an inpatient in an institution for mental diseases, and
- she has countable MAGI household income less than or equal to 205% FP (200% FPL plus 5% FPL disregard).

# Subchapter M2320: Nonfinancial Eligibility

Last Subchapter Revision Date: July 2021

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## M2320 CHANGES

Changed With	Effective Date	Sections Changed
TN #DMAS-20	July 2021	M2320

TN – Transmittal

UP – Update

# SECTION M02320.100: NONFINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Last Section Revision Date: July 2021

## A. Policy

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The pregnant woman must meet, with certain exceptions, the Medicaid nonfinancial eligibility requirements in Chapter M02 and must be uninsured.

## B. M02 Applicable Requirements

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The Medicaid nonfinancial eligibility requirements in Chapter M02 that must be met are:

- Virginia residency requirements (M0230)
- Assignment of rights (M0250)
- Application for other benefits (M0270)
- Institutional status requirements regarding inmates of a public institution (M0280).

The Social Security Number (SSN) requirement does not apply to the pregnant woman.

## C. Noncitizen Status and FAMIS Prenatal Coverage

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FAMIS Prenatal Coverage is limited to a pregnant woman of any age who **does not** meet the lawfully residing noncitizen status requirement for pregnant women for full-benefit coverage in M0220.314 and who applies for coverage while pregnant or no later than the month in which the infant is born.

A pregnant woman who does not meet the lawfully residing noncitizen status requirement and who applies for coverage after the month in which the child is born but within the application's retroactive period may be eligible for Medicaid coverage of the labor and delivery as emergency services if the woman's countable MAGI household income is within the Medicaid or limit or she is eligible as Medically Needy. See M0220.400.

## D. FAMIS Prenatal Coverage Covered Group Requirements

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### 1. Declaration of Pregnancy

The woman's pregnancy and the number of unborn children are declared on the application and require no further verification unless the agency has received conflicting information. See M0310.124 for the definition of a pregnant woman.

### 2. Must be Uninsured

The pregnant woman must be uninsured; that is, she must not be covered under any creditable health insurance plan offering hospital and medical benefits. If a pregnant woman has creditable health insurance that does not cover pregnancy,

labor and/or delivery services, the pregnant woman is ineligible for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage because she is insured.

**3. IMD Prohibition**

The pregnant woman cannot be an inpatient in an institution for mental diseases (IMD).

## Subsection M02320.200: Health Insurance Coverage

Last Subsection Revision Date: July 2021

### A. Introduction

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A pregnant woman who has creditable health insurance coverage is not eligible for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage.

FAMIS Prenatal coverage provides the same coverage as FAMIS MOMS, including coverage of prenatal care, other medical care, dental care, and transportation to received covered services. Pregnant women enrolled in FAMIS Prenatal Coverage will receive care through a managed care organization (see M1830.100).

### B. Definitions

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- **Creditable Coverage** – For the purposes of FAMIS Prenatal Coverage, creditable coverage means coverage of the individual under any of the following:
  - Church plans and governmental plans
  - Health insurance coverage, either group or individual insurance;
  - Military-sponsored health care
  - A state health benefits risk pool
  - A. The federal employees’ health benefits plan; Medicare
  - A public health plan
  - Any other health benefit plan under section 5(e) of the peace corps act

The definition of creditable coverage includes short-term limited coverage.

- **Employer-sponsored Dependent Health Insurance** – means the employer pays a portion of the premium payment. COBRA coverage in which the employer makes no contribution to the payment of the premium is not employer-sponsored insurance.
- **Health Benefit Plan** – is defined in the Virginia Bureau of Insurance Regulations (14VAC5-234-30) and means:
  - any accident and health insurance policy or certificate,
  - health services plan contract,
  - B. health maintenance organization subscriber contract, or
  - plan provided by a Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangement (MEWA).”

Health benefit plan does NOT mean:

- Medicaid,
- accident only,
- credit or disability insurance,
- long-term care insurance,
- dental only or vision only insurance,

- specified disease insurance,
  - hospital confinement indemnity coverage,
  - limited benefit health coverage,
  - coverage issued as a supplement to liability insurance,
  - insurance arising out of workers' compensation or similar law,
  - automobile medical payment insurance, or
  - insurance under which benefits are payable with or without regard to fault and that is statutorily required to be contained in any liability insurance policy or equivalent self-insurance.
- **Insured** – means having creditable health insurance coverage or coverage under a health benefit plan. A woman is considered to be insured if she is covered by a creditable health insurance plan, even if the policy or plan does not cover pregnancy-related services.
  - **Uninsured** – means having no insurance; having insurance that is not creditable; having coverage which is not defined as a health benefit plan, or having a health insurance plan that does not have a network of providers in the area where the pregnant woman resides.

## C. Policy

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### 1. Must be Uninsured

A nonfinancial requirement of FAMIS Prenatal Coverage is that the pregnant woman be uninsured. A pregnant woman **cannot**:

- have creditable health insurance coverage, or
- have coverage under a group health plan (TRICARE, federal employee benefit plan, private group insurance such as Anthem, etc.) or Medicare.

### 2. Prior Insurance

Prior insurance coverage is not a factor as long as the pregnant woman is uninsured during the month for which FAMIS Prenatal Coverage eligibility is being determined.

## **Subsection M02320.300: No Child Support Cooperation Requirements**

Last Subsection Revision Date: July 2021

### **A. Policy**

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There are no requirements for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage applicants or members to cooperate in pursuing support from an absent parent.

# Subchapter M2330: Financial Eligibility

Last Subchapter Revision Date: October 2022

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## M2330 CHANGES

Changed With	Effective Date	Sections Changed
TN #DMAS-25	October 2022	M2330

TN – Transmittal

UP – Update

# SECTION M02330.100: FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY

Last Section Revision Date: October 2022

## A. Financial Eligibility

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### 1. Income

MAGI methodology contained in Chapter M04 is used for the FAMIS Prenatal Coverage income evaluation. To the maximum extent possible, attested income must be verified by information obtained from electronic data sources, such as the federal hub or another reliable data source, prior to requesting paystubs or employer statements. If the income attested to by the applicant is within 20% of the income information obtained from electronic sources OR both sources are below the applicable income limit, no additional verification is required. If the reasonable compatibility standard is not met, request verification of income and allow a minimum of 10 days to return. If the documentation is delayed in the mail due to no fault of the applicant, accept delayed documentation and complete application processing.

The FAMIS Prenatal Coverage income limit is 200% of the FPL (see Appendix 1 to this chapter) for the number of individuals in the pregnant woman's MAGI household composition as defined in M04. The pregnant woman is counted as herself plus the number of children she is expected to deliver. Per MAGI policy in chapter M04, a 5% FPL income disregard is applicable.

### 2. Resources

Resources are not evaluated for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage.

### 3. No Spenddown

Spenddown does not apply to FAMIS Prenatal Coverage. If countable income exceeds the FAMIS Prenatal Coverage income limit, the pregnant woman is not eligible for the FAMIS Prenatal Coverage program. If the woman has no documentation of immigration status, DO NOT make a referral to the Health Insurance Marketplace.

# Subchapter M2340: Application and Case Handling Procedures

Last Subchapter Revision Date: January 2025

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## M2340 CHANGES

Changed With	Effective Date	Sections Changed
TN #DMAS-34	January 2025	M2340

TN – Transmittal

UP – Update

# SECTION M02340.100: APPLICATION AND CASE HANDLING PROCEDURES

Last Section Revision Date: January 2025

## A. Application Requirements

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The policies in subchapters M0120 and M0130 apply.

## B. Eligibility Determination

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### 1. Seven-Calendar Day Processing

Applications for pregnant women must be processed as soon as possible, but no later than seven calendar days from the date the signed application was filed. If all necessary verifications are not received, the application continues to pend until the 45 day processing time limit is met.

### 2. Notice Requirements

The applicant/recipient must be notified in writing of the required information and the deadline by which the information must be received.

The agency must have all necessary verifications within seven calendar days in order to determine eligibility. If the agency does not receive the verifications within the seven calendar days, the worker must send the applicant written notice on the seventh day. The notice must state why action on the application could not be taken, specify what documentation is necessary in order to determine eligibility, and give a deadline of at least 10 calendar days to submit the verification.

Once all necessary verifications for the pregnant woman are received, an eligibility determination must be made immediately, and the applicant must be notified of the decision.

## C. Case Setup Procedures for Approved Cases

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A woman enrolled as FAMIS Prenatal Coverage may have the same base case number in the Medicaid Enterprise System {MES—formerly the Virginia Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS)} as Medicaid enrollees.

## D. Entitlement and Enrollment

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### 1. Begin Date of Coverage

Pregnant women determined eligible for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage are enrolled for benefits effective the first day of the application month, if all eligibility requirements are met in that month.

### 2. No Retroactive Coverage

There is no retroactive coverage in the FAMIS Prenatal Coverage program.

### 3. Aid Categories

The FAMIS Prenatal Coverage aid categories (AC) are:

- 110 for pregnant women with income  $\leq 143\%$  FPL
- 111 for pregnant women with income  $>143\%$  FPL but  $\leq 200\%$  FPL.

**NOTE:** A change in the MMIS enrollment system was effective July 1, 2022 to display the FAMIS Prenatal aid categories AC110 / AC111. Anyone enrolled prior to July 1, 2022 will remain in aid category AC005 *until renewal* if eligibility is not run and updated to the new AC.

### 4. Coverage Period

After her eligibility is established as a pregnant woman, the woman's FAMIS Prenatal Coverage entitlement continues through her pregnancy and the 60-day period following the end of her pregnancy regardless of income changes. Her coverage ends the last day of the month in which the 60th postpartum day occurs. The 12-month coverage period for pregnant women in Medicaid and FAMIS MOMS is not applicable to FAMIS Prenatal Coverage.

## E. Notification Requirements

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Written notice must be sent to the pregnant woman informing her of the action taken on the application. The notice must include the eligibility determination results for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage.

If the woman is not eligible for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage and has no documentation of immigration status, DO NOT make a referral to the Health Insurance Marketplace.

## F. Enrolling Infant Born to a Woman in FAMIS Prenatal Coverage

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For women assigned to AC 110 under a fee for service (FFS) arrangement, her labor and delivery services are paid as emergency services, and the newborn is considered a deemed-eligible newborn. When the birth of the child born to a woman enrolled in FAMIS Prenatal Coverage is reported, review the available systems to determine if the mother is assigned to AC110 under FFS. If so, the child is enrolled as a deemed newborn in AC 093 and is eligible for 12 months of continuous coverage. An infant born to a woman in FAMIS Prenatal Coverage who is assigned to AC 111 and/or enrolled in managed care must be evaluated for ongoing coverage. The infant is not considered a deemed-eligible newborn but has rather been enrolled prenatally through the mother's enrollment in FAMIS Prenatal Coverage, and the enrollment is treated as a change in circumstances. If the newborn's eligibility can be verified with information known to the agency, enroll the child effective the date of the birth with a 12-month certification period. If the child's eligibility can't be verified, the infant's birth is treated as an "add a person" case change in the enrollment

system and given a 12-month certification period starting with the mother's first month of enrollment.

To enroll the infant, the worker must have the information below. Use existing case data if possible. If additional information is needed, send a request for verification. *The newborn is protected by continuous eligibility until the end of their certification period. If a verification request is sent and returned, process it as a change in circumstances. If the child remains eligible, give them a new 12-month certification period. If the verification request is not returned or the information provided indicates that the child is ineligible, do not disenroll them. Eligibility will be reviewed through the annual redetermination process at the end of their current certification period.*

### 1. Required Information

- Name, date of birth, sex (gender)
- Information about the infant's MAGI household and income, if not available in the case record

Unless the agency has information about the infant's father living in the home (i.e., for another program), use only the mother's reported income to enroll the infant. Do not request information about the father or the father's income unless the agency has *current* information about the father living in the home and his income. *Information on file can be used if less than six months old.*

**NOTE:** The infant is not required to provide an SSN or proof of application for an SSN in order to be enrolled. Follow the procedures in M0240.200 B.3 90 days following the infant's enrollment to determine if an SSN has been assigned. If the SSN number has not yet been issued at 90 days, obtain the SSN or proof of application for an SSN at the first renewal of the infant's coverage.

### 2. Enrollment and Aid Category

Update the case with the new infant's information, enrolling the child as a Medicaid child under 19 or in FAMIS, as appropriate based on the mother's countable income at the time of application. Use the appropriate AC below to enroll the infant:

- Medicaid AC 090 for income > 109% FPL ≤ 143% FPL
- Medicaid AC 091 for income ≤ 109% FPL
- FAMIS AC 006 for income > 150% FPL and ≤ 200% FPL
- FAMIS AC 008 for income > 143% FPL and ≤ 150% FPL

### 3. Renewal

The infant's first renewal is due 12 months from the month of the child's enrollment.

## G. Examples

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**EXAMPLE #1:** *Rose is pregnant and is carrying one unborn child. She was born outside the U.S. She applies for Medicaid on October 27, 2021. She reported on the application that she visited the emergency room in August 2021. The retroactive period for her application is July – September 2021.*

*Rose is unable to verify that she is lawfully residing in the U.S.; therefore, she cannot be eligible for full-benefit Medicaid or FAMIS Moms and is evaluated for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage. Her verified countable monthly income is \$1,756 per month, which is under the income limit for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage for her MAGI household size of two. She is approved for FAMIS Prenatal coverage and enrolled effective October 1, 2021, in AC 110, based on her countable income of under 143% FPL (see M23, Appendix 1). She is enrolled in Managed Care, so her infant will not be considered a deemed-eligible newborn.*

Because she received an emergency service during the retroactive period and her income is under the Medicaid limit for a pregnant woman, she is evaluated for Emergency Services coverage.

Rose’s son, AJ, is born on February 25, 2022, and is enrolled in AC 090 beginning February 25, 2022. His Medicaid renewal is due in February 2023. Rose’s FAMIS Prenatal Coverage ends on April 30, 2022.

**EXAMPLE #2:** Jo lives with her husband Al and daughter Em, who was born on October 31, 2021. Jo was born outside the U.S. She applies for Medical Assistance on November 25, 2021 and requests retroactive coverage for her pregnancy. She does not request coverage for her husband.

Jo is unable to verify that she is lawfully residing in the U.S.; therefore, she cannot be eligible for full-benefit Medicaid or FAMIS Moms. Because Jo applied for coverage the month after her infant’s birth, she cannot be eligible for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage.

Jo’s MAGI household consists of three people—Jo, her infant, and her husband. The verified countable monthly income for the household is \$3,473.

Jo’s countable income is over the limit of 143% FPL for Medicaid and has excess resources for Medically Needy eligibility; therefore, she cannot be approved for Medicaid coverage of emergency services for the labor and delivery.

Em is determined to be eligible for FAMIS, which covers an eligible child who was born within the 3 months prior to the application month. Em is enrolled effective October 31, 2021, in AC 006. Her renewal is due in October 2022.

The eligibility worker sends a Notice of Action indicating Jo is not eligible for Medicaid or FAMIS Prenatal Coverage and Em has been enrolled in FAMIS.

# Subchapter M2350: Adverse Actions

Last Subchapter Revision Date: January 2025

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## M2350 CHANGES

Changed With	Effective Date	Sections Changed
TN #DMAS-34	January 2025	M2350

TN – Transmittal

UP – Update

## **SECTION M02350.100: REVIEW OF ADVERSE ACTIONS**

Last Section Revision Date: January 2025

An applicant for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage may request a review of an adverse determination regarding eligibility for FAMIS Prenatal Coverage. FAMIS Prenatal Coverage follows the procedures established by Medicaid for client appeals (see Chapter M16).

The payment of medical services on the part of any pregnant woman or any right to participate in the program is not subject to review if the reason for denial or cancellation is that funds for the FAMIS Prenatal Coverage program are exhausted.

## APPENDIX 1: FAMIS PRENATAL COVERAGE INCOME LIMITS

The following income charts have been moved to Chapter M00 – Appendix – Income Charts:

- C. FAMIS Prenatal Coverage 200% FPL Income Limits - All Localities
  - Enroll Using Aid Category 110
    - 143% FPL Yearly Amount
    - 143% FPL Monthly Amount
    - 148% FPL (143% FPL + 5% FPL Disregard)
  - Enroll Using Aid Category 111
    - 200% FPL Yearly Amount
    - 200% FPL Monthly Amount
    - 205% FPL (200% FPL + 5% FPL Disregard)