



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL SERVICES

# H.R. 1 Noncitizen Eligibility Changes Toolkit

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*June 2026*



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## Changes to Medicaid Eligibility for Noncitizen Adults

Federally required changes to noncitizen eligibility for Medicaid will start October 1, 2026. Once the changes are made, non-pregnant adults with certain immigration statuses will no longer be eligible for full-benefit Medicaid.

The new law **does not change** Virginia Medicaid or FAMIS eligibility rules for noncitizen children or pregnant individuals.

### Medicaid Citizenship and Immigration Status Rules\*

| Non-Pregnant Adults Eligible for Full-benefit Medicaid                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Before October 1, 2026:</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. Citizens, including Naturalized Citizens</li> <li>• U.S. Nationals</li> <li>• Lawful Permanent Residents</li> <li>• Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants</li> <li>• Parolees</li> <li>• Conditional Entrants</li> <li>• Battered noncitizen</li> <li>• Refugees</li> <li>• Asylees</li> <li>• Amerasians</li> <li>• Cuban and Haitian entrants</li> <li>• Deportees whose deportation is withheld</li> <li>• Victims of trafficking and their spouse, child, sibling or parent</li> <li>• Iraqi and Afghan Special Immigrant</li> </ul> | <b><u>After October 1, 2026:</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. Citizens, including Naturalized Citizens</li> <li>• U.S. Nationals</li> <li>• Lawful Permanent Residents</li> <li>• Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants</li> <li>• Cuban and Haitian entrants</li> </ul> |

\*Waiting periods and time-limits on eligibility may also apply. Eligibility rules are available in the [Virginia Medical Assistance Eligibility Manual](#).

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is NOT changing?

**The eligibility rules for noncitizen children (those 18 and younger) and pregnant individuals are not changing.** Legally residing children, meaning those who have a current visa or status, will continue to be eligible for Medicaid and FAMIS so long as they meet other eligibility rules (e.g., income). Pregnant noncitizens with qualifying incomes may be eligible for coverage regardless of their immigration status. Non-pregnant adults ineligible for full-benefit Medicaid due to their immigration status will continue to be eligible for coverage of emergency services only through Emergency Medicaid.

## How will Virginia implement these changes?

Noncitizens who apply for Medicaid on or after October 1, 2026, will have their eligibility determined using the new rules.

The state will identify and review the eligibility of current members with an immigration status that will no longer allow the individual to be enrolled in full-benefit coverage under the new rules. Impacted members will be sent a notice explaining the new rules and requesting that they report any changes to their immigration status or confirm whether the status “on file” is correct. If a member reports a change, the state will verify the new information and, if still eligible, continue their coverage.

If a member is no longer eligible for full-benefit Medicaid because of their immigration status, they will receive a *Notice of Action* telling them that they will be moved into Emergency Services Medicaid. This process will start in the summer of 2026, with changes to member eligibility being effective on October 1.

## What can someone do if they are denied or lose coverage because of the new definition of ‘qualified immigration status’?

Applicants and members can appeal eligibility decisions with which they disagree. Appeal instructions are included in all *Notices of Action* that communicate a denial, reduction or loss of coverage. [Get additional information about appeals.](#)

## Can someone who is no longer eligible for full-benefit coverage receive any services through Medicaid?

Noncitizens who do not qualify for full-benefit Medicaid, including those without a valid immigration status, may receive limited coverage for emergency services only.

*Please note: all information in this document is based on current understanding. Additional forthcoming federal guidance may result in changes. We will update this document as new information is received.*

# Medicaid Member Notice

Cardinal Care Correspondence Center  
PO Box 1198  
Richmond, VA 23218

Commonwealth of Virginia  
Department of Social Services  
Questions? Call: <LDSS phone  
number>

Letter Date: <DATE>  
Case Number: <Case #>

<Member Name>  
<Address 1>  
<Address 2>

## Important Information for <Member Name> - Action Required by <Letter Date + 30 Days>

A new federal law is changing the Medicaid citizenship and immigration status eligibility rules. Starting October 1, 2026, adults who are not pregnant must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, Lawful Permanent Resident, Cuban-Haitian Entrant or Compact of Free Association Migrant to remain eligible for full-benefit Medicaid. These changes apply only to adults. The eligibility rules for children and pregnant/postpartum members are not changing.

## Please give us the information requested by <Letter Date + 30 Days>!

We need verification of your citizenship or immigration status to help us review your eligibility. You may lose your Medicaid coverage or be moved into a limited-benefit Medicaid plan that covers emergency services only if you do not provide the requested information by the due date.

A list of the documents that you can send as proof of your U.S. citizenship or immigration status and directions for sending them are included on the next page.

If you need help, call your Local Department of Social Services, <LDSS Phone Number>, or the Cover Virginia Call Center, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7p.m. at 1-855-242-8282 (TTY: 1-888-221-1590).

### Things to remember when submitting documents:

- ✓ Always keep your original documents and send us a copy.
- ✓ Include the first page of this letter with the documents you are submitting.
- ✓ Write your first and last name, date of birth, and Case Number <CASE #> on the copy of your documents you give to us.
- ✓ Make sure the picture or copy of your documents is clear and that we can read all important information, dates, and numbers.
- ✓ Call us if there has been a change in your situation since you applied, if you don't have the documents requested below, or if you need help obtaining the information.



Case #:

Correspondence #:



|                               |                                          |                                               |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Worker Name:<br><Worker Name> | Telephone Number:<br><LDSS Phone Number> | For Free Legal Advice Call:<br>1-866-534-5243 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

Remember, if you do not send us the information we are asking for, we cannot finish reviewing your eligibility for Medicaid and your coverage may end.

Return one of the documents below to help us confirm your U.S. citizenship or immigration status.

|                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Action:</b> Return verification of your citizenship or immigration status within 30 days of this letter.    |                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Due Date:</b> <Due Date>                                                                                    |                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Citizenship Verification Documents:</b><br><Populate list of acceptable citizenship verification documents> | <b>Immigration Status Verification Documents:</b><br><Populate list of acceptable immigration status verification documents> |

#### Ways to Send Your Documents

1. **By email:** [verify\\_docs@coverva.org](mailto:verify_docs@coverva.org)
2. **By fax:** (888) 221-9402
3. **By mail:** Cardinal Care Correspondence Center, PO Box 1820, Richmond, VA 23218
4. **In person:** <LDSS ADDRESS>

**Always keep your original documents and give us a copy.**

#### Your CommonHelp Account

**CommonHelp.Virginia.gov** keeps all important information about your family's applications. You can choose to get letters like this online. Your CommonHelp account is secure.

To create an account, go to **CommonHelp.Virginia.gov** and click "Check My Benefits." To link your case to your CommonHelp account using the information below, log in and select "Manage My Account."

**Case Number:** <Case Number>  
**Client ID:** <Client ID>



Case #:

Correspondence #:



# H.R. 1 – Medicaid Eligibility Impacts Noncitizen Changes

xxxx, 2026





# Noncitizen Eligibility Changes

October 1, 2026

## Limits eligibility for non-pregnant adults to:

- U.S. citizens and nationals
- Lawful Permanent Residents (aka Green Card Holders), after 5 years
  - 5-year bar will continue to be waived when the LPR was previously a Refugee, Asylee, Amerasian Immigrant, Cuban and Haitian Entrant, Deportee, Victim of Trafficking, Iraqi or Afghan Special Immigrant Visa holder, or certain Afghan and Ukrainian Parolees, or is an active-duty military member, veteran or family member.
- Cuban and Haitian Entrants, 7-year limit
- Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants, with no waiting period or coverage time limit

## Does NOT impact the eligibility rules for:

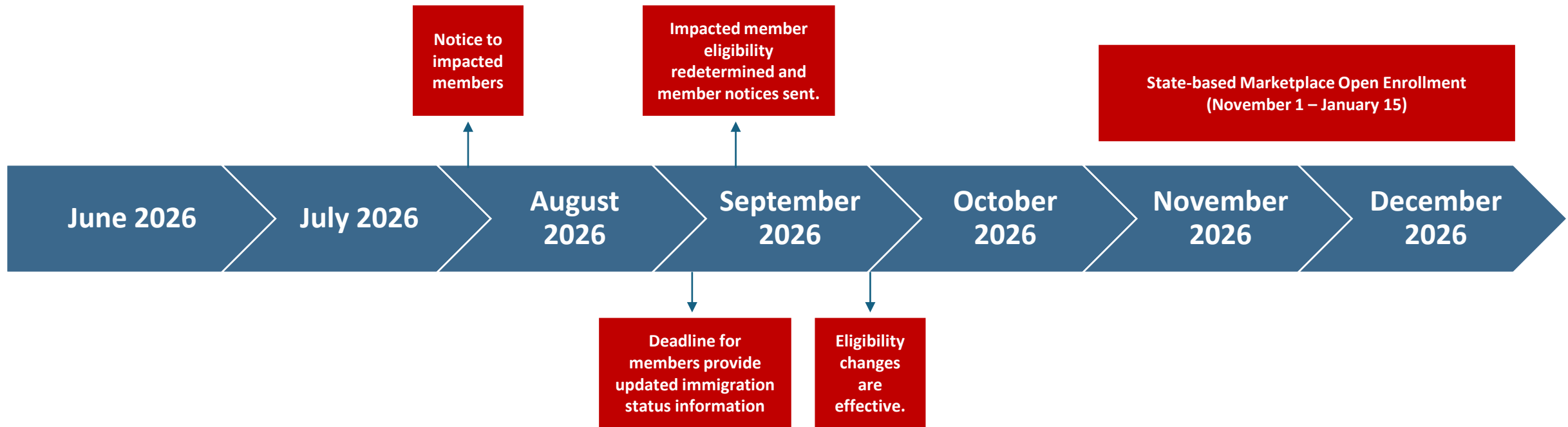
- Legally residing children under 19 and pregnant individuals
- FAMIS Prenatal, pregnancy coverage regardless of status
- CHIP Health Services Initiatives (HSI)
- Emergency Medicaid

# Noncitizen Eligibility Changes: Non-Pregnant Adults

| Before October 1, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | On or After October 1, 2026                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lawful Permanent Residents</li><li>• Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants</li><li>• Parolees</li><li>• Conditional Entrants</li><li>• Battered noncitizen</li><li>• Refugees</li><li>• Asylees</li><li>• Amerasians*</li><li>• Cuban and Haitian entrants</li><li>• Deportees whose deportation is withheld</li><li>• Victims of trafficking and their spouse, child, sibling or parent</li><li>• Iraqi and Afghan with Special Immigrant Visas (SIVs)*</li><li>• SSI recipients</li><li>• American Indians/Alaskan Natives born in Canada</li><li>• Legally residing active-duty military/veterans and their spouses and dependent children</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lawful Permanent Residents</li><li>• Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants</li><li>• Cuban and Haitian entrants</li></ul> |

\* Amerasian and SIV status automatically receive LPR status and can be treated as such.

# Outreach and Communications Timeline



# Member Notice

Cardinal Care Correspondence Center  
PO Box 1198  
Richmond, VA 23218

Commonwealth of Virginia  
Department of Social Services  
Questions? Call: <LDSS phone  
number>

Letter Date: <DATE>  
Case Number: <Case #>

<Member Name>  
<Address 1>  
<Address 2>

## Important Information for <Member Name> - Action Required by <Letter Date + 30 Days>

A new federal law is changing the Medicaid citizenship and immigration status eligibility rules. Starting October 1, 2026, adults who are not pregnant must be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, Lawful Permanent Resident, [Cuban-Haitian](#) Entrant or Compact of Free Association Migrant to remain eligible for full-benefit Medicaid. **These changes apply only to adults. The eligibility rules for children and pregnant/postpartum members are not changing.**

### Please give us the information requested by <Letter Date + 30 Days>!

We need verification of your citizenship or immigration status to help us review your eligibility. You may lose your Medicaid coverage or be moved into a limited-benefit Medicaid plan that covers emergency services only if you do not provide the requested information by the due date.

A list of the documents that you can send as proof of your U.S. citizenship or immigration status and directions for sending them are included on the next page.

If you need help, call your Local Department of Social Services, <LDSS Phone Number>, or the **Cover Virginia Call Center**, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 1-855-242-8282 (TTY: 1-888-221-1590).

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- ✓ Include the first page of this letter with the documents you are submitting.
- ✓ Write your first and last name, date of birth, and Case Number <CASE #> on the copy of your documents you give to us.
- ✓ Make sure the picture or copy of your documents is clear and that we can read all important information, dates, and numbers.
- ✓ Call us if there has been a change in your situation since you applied, if you don't have the documents requested below, or if you need help obtaining the information.

|                               |                                          |                                               |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Worker Name:<br><Worker Name> | Telephone Number:<br><LDSS Phone Number> | For Free Legal Advice Call:<br>1-866-534-5243 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

Remember, if you do not send us the information we are asking for, we cannot finish reviewing your eligibility for Medicaid and your coverage may end.

Return one of the documents below to help us confirm your U.S. citizenship or immigration status.

|                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Action:</b> Return verification of your citizenship or immigration status within 30 days of this letter.    |                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Due Date:</b> <Due Date>                                                                                    |                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Citizenship Verification Documents:</b><br><Populate list of acceptable citizenship verification documents> | <b>Immigration Status Verification Documents:</b><br><Populate list of acceptable immigration status verification documents> |

#### Ways to Send Your Documents

1. **By email:** [verify\\_docs@coverva.org](mailto:verify_docs@coverva.org)
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3. **By mail:** Cardinal Care Correspondence Center, PO Box 1820, Richmond, VA 23218
4. **In person:** <LDSS ADDRESS>

Always keep your original documents  
and give us a copy.

#### Your CommonHelp Account

**CommonHelp.Virginia.gov** keeps all important information about your family's applications. You can choose to get letters like this online. Your CommonHelp account is secure.

To create an account, go to **CommonHelp.Virginia.gov** and click "Check My Benefits." To link your case to your CommonHelp account using the information below, log in and select "Manage My Account."

**Case Number:** <Case Number>  
**Client ID:** <Client ID>

# Ways to Contact Us



## PHONE

Cover Virginia Call Center: 1-855-221-1590 (TDD: 1-888-221-1590)



## ONLINE

Common Help: [www.commonhelp.virginia.gov](http://www.commonhelp.virginia.gov)



## IN PERSON

Visit your local Department of Social Services

Find your nearest local department of social services by visiting:

**<http://www.dss.virginia.gov/localagency/index.cgi>**

***If you would like to learn more about Medicaid Eligibility Changes: visit [www.dmas.virginia.gov](http://www.dmas.virginia.gov)***

# Additional Resources

- DMAS Resources: [www.dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/](http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/)
  - VDSS Resource Hub: [www.dss.virginia.gov/relief/eligibilitychangeresources/](http://www.dss.virginia.gov/relief/eligibilitychangeresources/)
  - In-person assistance: [www.covera.dmas.virginia.gov/apply/find-help-in-your-area/](http://www.covera.dmas.virginia.gov/apply/find-help-in-your-area/)
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VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL SERVICES

# H.R. 1 Noncitizen Eligibility Changes Toolkit

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*Member Messaging & Guidance*

*June 2026*



# 2026 Member Messaging Samples

## Newsletter Blurb

### Message #1

#### Upcoming Medicaid Eligibility Changes for Some Noncitizen Adults

Later this year, a federal law will require changes to Medicaid eligibility rules for certain noncitizen adults. **These changes are scheduled to begin October 1, 2026.**

If you are a **non-pregnant adult**, Medicaid eligibility rules related to immigration status will become more limited. To qualify for full-benefit Medicaid after October 1, 2026, non-pregnant adults will need to be a U.S. citizen or national or be a Lawful Permanent Resident, Cuban or Haitian Entrant, or a Compact of Free Association migrant and meet all other Medicaid requirements, such as income limits.

Virginia Medicaid will review current members who may be affected and will send notices with more information before any changes take place. These notices will explain what the new rules mean and whether any action is needed.

No changes are happening yet. Coverage continues under current rules through September 30, 2026.

**CTA:** Review Eligibility Changes

**Link:** <https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>

### Message #2

#### Coverage for Noncitizen Children and Pregnant Members is Not Changing

The upcoming federal changes to Medicaid eligibility for noncitizens do not affect Medicaid or FAMIS eligibility for noncitizen children or pregnant members.

- Children under age 19 who are legally residing and meet other eligibility rules will continue to be eligible for Medicaid or FAMIS.
- Pregnant and postpartum individuals may qualify for coverage regardless of immigration status.
- Eligibility rules for children and pregnant members are not changing.

Noncitizens who do not have an eligible immigration status, but meet all Medicaid eligibility rules, may still qualify for Emergency Services Medicaid or may be eligible for health coverage through Virginia's Insurance Marketplace.



Virginia Medicaid will share clear, easy-to-understand information as October 1, 2026, approaches.

To make sure you receive important updates, please keep your mailing address, phone number, and email address [up to date](#).

**CTA:** Read FAQs

**Link:** <https://dmas.virginia.gov/media/w1kd24e5/hr1-immigrant-eligibility-changes-12-16-2025-english.pdf>

## Newsletter SMS

### Message #1

Medicaid eligibility changes for some noncitizen adults will begin in Oct. 2026. Learn who is impacted and what changes are coming. [\[\[newsletter SHORT\\_URL\]\]](#)

### Message #2

Medicaid eligibility changes are coming for certain noncitizen adults in Oct. 2026. Children and pregnant adults are not affected. [\[\[newsletter SHORT\\_URL\]\]](#)

## Text Messages

### Message #1

Medicaid eligibility changes for certain noncitizen adults start Oct. 2026. No action is needed yet. Stay updated: <https://linktr.ee/cardinalcare>

### Message #2

Medicaid reminder: Some noncitizen adults will have new eligibility rules in Oct. 2026. Keep your contact info updated: <https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/members/update-your-information/>

### Message #3

Medicaid will provide clear guidance on noncitizen adult eligibility changes before Oct. 2026. Review eligibility changes here: <https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>

## Website Text

Starting October 1, 2026, Virginia Medicaid will begin making changes required by a new federal law that affects some noncitizen adults. One part of this law will update eligibility rules for non-

pregnant, noncitizen adults enrolled in Medicaid. These changes have not started yet, and more information will be shared as federal guidance is released.

No action is needed right now. The Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) will share clear, easy-to-understand information before any changes take place, so members know what to expect. As updates become available, they will be shared through official DMAS channels.

To stay informed, members are encouraged to make sure their mailing address, phone number, and email address are [up to date](#). This helps ensure important information is received when it matters most.

Visit the [DMAS website](#) for more information.

## Social Media Posts

H.R. 1 Social Media Posts for Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn

**Instagram:** @CardinalCare

**Facebook:** @CardinalCare

**LinkedIn:** @Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services

### Post #1

Important Medicaid eligibility changes are coming later this year.

Starting October 1, 2026, a new federal law will change Medicaid eligibility rules for some non-pregnant, noncitizen adults. Coverage continues under current rules through September 30, 2026.

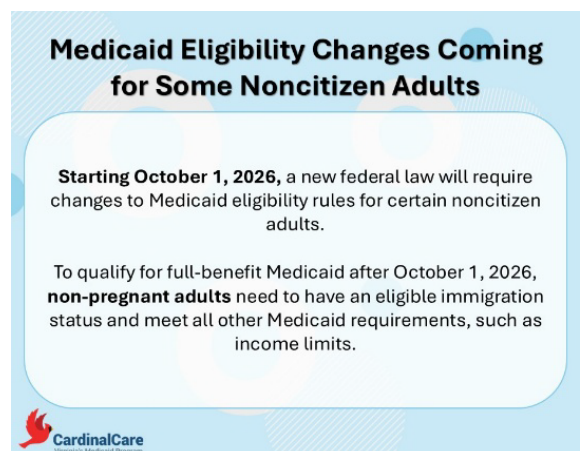
Virginia Medicaid will notify members who may be affected before any changes happen. Learn what's changing and who may be impacted:

<https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>

#CardinalCare

#VirginiaMedicaid

#MedicaidUpdates



## Post #2

Reminder: Medicaid eligibility changes for some noncitizen adults are coming later this year.

Starting October 1, 2026, Virginia Medicaid will begin implementing federally required updates affecting some non-pregnant, noncitizen adults. These changes have not started yet, and no action is needed right now.

Virginia Medicaid will share clear information before any changes take place. To avoid missing important updates, members are encouraged to keep their contact information up to date:

<https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/members/update-your-information/>

#CardinalCare

#VirginiaMedicaid

#MedicaidUpdates

### Medicaid Eligibility Changes Coming for Some Noncitizen Adults

**Starting October 1, 2026**, a new federal law will require changes to Medicaid eligibility rules for certain noncitizen adults.

To qualify for full-benefit Medicaid after October 1, 2026, **non-pregnant adults** need to have an eligible immigration status and meet all other Medicaid requirements, such as income limits.



## Member Flyer



### **IMPORTANT:**

### **Upcoming Changes to Medicaid Eligibility**

A new federal law made major changes to Medicaid eligibility.  
Some changes will begin in October 2026,  
and others will begin January 2027.

Learn more about how these changes may affect your coverage by  
visiting [dmas.virginia.gov](https://dmas.virginia.gov) or scanning below.



If you have questions, need additional assistance, or  
require language assistance services or large-print  
documents, please call Cover Virginia at 1-855-242-8282  
(TTY: 1-888-221-1590) or email  
[covervirginia@dmas.virginia.gov](mailto:covervirginia@dmas.virginia.gov).

This entity does not discriminate in its programs and services on the basis of race, color,  
national origin, sex, age, or disability.

HR1 Member Flyer EN

# Member Rack Card



## Upcoming Changes to Medicaid Eligibility for Adults

A new federal law made major changes to Medicaid eligibility.

Some changes will begin in October 2026, and others will begin January 2027.

Learn more about how these changes may affect your coverage by visiting [dmas.virginia.gov](https://dmas.virginia.gov) or scanning below.



This entity does not discriminate in its programs and services on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.  
HR1 Rack Card EN



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL SERVICES

# H.R. 1 Noncitizen Eligibility Changes Toolkit

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*Provider Messaging & Guidance*

*June 2026*



# 2026 Provider Messaging Samples

## Newsletter Blurb

### Message #1

#### Upcoming Medicaid Eligibility Changes for Some Noncitizen Adults

Later this year, a federal law will require changes to Medicaid eligibility rules for certain noncitizen adults. **These changes are scheduled to begin October 1, 2026.**

Providers should be aware that eligibility rules for **non-pregnant, noncitizen adults** will become more limited. To qualify for full-benefit Medicaid after October 1, 2026, non-pregnant adults will need to be a U.S. citizen or national or be a Lawful Permanent Resident, Cuban or Haitian Entrant, or a Compact of Free Association migrant and meet all other Medicaid requirements, such as income limits.

Virginia Medicaid will review current members who may be affected and will send notices with more information before any changes take place. These notices will explain what the new rules mean, whether any action is needed, and any deadlines members may need to follow to keep or update their coverage. Providers should encourage patients to watch for these notices and review them carefully.

Coverage continues under current rules through September 30, 2026.

**CTA:** Share Eligibility Changes with Patients

**Link:** <https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>

### Message #2

#### Coverage for Noncitizen Children and Pregnant Members is Not Changing

The upcoming federal changes to Medicaid eligibility for noncitizens do not affect Medicaid or FAMIS eligibility for noncitizen children or pregnant members.

- Children under age 19 who are legally residing and meet other eligibility rules will continue to be eligible for Medicaid or FAMIS.
- Pregnant and postpartum individuals may qualify for coverage regardless of immigration status.
- Eligibility rules for children and pregnant members are not changing.

Noncitizens who do not have an eligible immigration status, but meet all Medicaid requirements, may still qualify for Emergency Services Medicaid. Individuals with a lawfully



present immigration status may also qualify for coverage through Virginia's Insurance Marketplace.

Providers should help patients understand which rules apply to them and reassure unaffected populations.

Encourage your patients to keep their mailing address, phone number, and email address [up to date](#). Virginia Medicaid will share clear, easy-to-understand information as October 1, 2026, approaches.

**CTA:** Read FAQs

**Link:** <https://dmas.virginia.gov/media/w1kd24e5/hr1-immigrant-eligibility-changes-12-16-2025-english.pdf>

## Newsletter SMS

### Message #1

Medicaid eligibility changes for some noncitizen adults begin Oct. 2026. Help patients learn who is impacted and what to expect: [\[\[newsletter SHORT\\_URL\]\]](#)

### Message #2

Medicaid eligibility changes are coming for certain noncitizen adults in Oct. 2026. Children and pregnant adults are not affected. [\[\[newsletter SHORT\\_URL\]\]](#)

## Text Messages

### Message #1

Medicaid eligibility changes for certain noncitizen adults start Oct. 2026. No action is needed yet. Stay updated: <https://linktr.ee/cardinalcare>

### Message #2

Medicaid reminder: Some noncitizen adults will have new eligibility rules in Oct. 2026. Encourage patients to update contact info: <https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/members/update-your-information/>

### Message #3

Medicaid will provide guidance on noncitizen adult eligibility changes before Oct. 2026. Learn how this impacts your patients: <https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>



## Website Text

Starting October 1, 2026, Virginia Medicaid will begin making changes required by a new federal law that affects some noncitizen adults. One part of this law will update eligibility rules for non-pregnant, noncitizen adults enrolled in Medicaid.

No action is needed right now. The Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) will share clear, easy-to-understand information before any changes take place, so providers and members know what to expect. As updates become available, they will be shared through official DMAS channels.

Providers should be prepared to support patients in understanding these changes and responding to any notices received.

To stay informed, members should keep their mailing address, phone number, and email address [up to date](#).

Visit the [DMAS website](#) for more information.

## Social Media Posts

H.R. 1 Social Media Posts for Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn

**Instagram:** @CardinalCare

**Facebook:** @CardinalCare

**LinkedIn:** @Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services

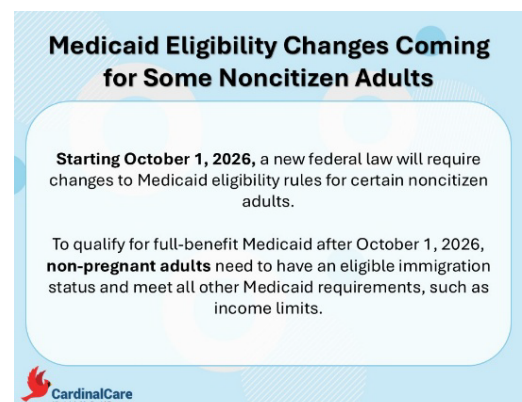
### Post #1

Important Medicaid eligibility changes are coming later this year for some noncitizen adults.

Providers can help members understand what's changing and prepare for October 1, 2026. Coverage continues under current rules through September 30, 2026.

Virginia Medicaid will notify members who may be affected before any changes happen. Learn more and share with your patients:

<https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>



#CardinalCare  
#VirginiaMedicaid  
#MedicaidUpdates

## Post #2

Reminder for providers: Medicaid eligibility changes for some noncitizen adults are coming later this year.

Starting October 1, 2026, Virginia Medicaid will begin implementing federally required updates affecting some non-pregnant, noncitizen adults. These changes have not started yet, and no action is needed right now.

Virginia Medicaid will share clear information before any changes take place. Help reinforce accurate information and encourage your patients to keep contact details up to date: <https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/members/update-your-information/>

#CardinalCare  
#VirginiaMedicaid  
#MedicaidUpdates

### Medicaid Eligibility Changes Coming for Some Noncitizen Adults

**Starting October 1, 2026**, a new federal law will require changes to Medicaid eligibility rules for certain noncitizen adults.

To qualify for full-benefit Medicaid after October 1, 2026, **non-pregnant adults** need to have an eligible immigration status and meet all other Medicaid requirements, such as income limits.



# 2027 Provider Messaging Samples

## Newsletter Blurb

### Message #1

#### **Important Update for Some Noncitizen Adults on Medicaid**

Medicaid eligibility rules for some noncitizen adults changed beginning October 1, 2026, due to a federal requirement.

Providers should be aware that non-pregnant adults must be a U.S. citizen or national or have one of the following eligible immigration statuses to qualify for full-benefit Medicaid coverage, in addition to meeting income and other eligibility requirements.

Eligible statuses include:

- Legal permanent residents (green card holders)
- Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants
- Cuban and Haitian entrants

Individuals whose immigration status no longer qualifies them for full-benefit Medicaid may still be eligible for Emergency Medicaid, which covers emergency services only.

They have the right to appeal coverage decisions. Instructions are included in all Medicaid notices.

**CTA:** Share Eligibility Information with Patients

**Link:** <https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>

### Message #2 (Monthly Reminder)

#### **Reminder: Medicaid Eligibility Depends on Immigration Status**

Eligibility rules have not changed for children or pregnant and postpartum individuals. Children who are lawfully residing and pregnant individuals with qualifying incomes may still be eligible for coverage.

Noncitizen adults should know that Medicaid eligibility also depends on immigration status, along with income and other program requirements.

**Under current rules, non-pregnant adults must have a qualifying immigration status to receive full-benefit Medicaid.** Adults without an eligible status cannot receive full Medicaid coverage but may still qualify for Emergency Medicaid for emergency services only.

Because immigration status can change over time, providers should encourage patients to:

- Read all notices from Virginia Medicaid
- Report changes to immigration status as soon as possible

Providers should also encourage members to review any notices they receive from Virginia Medicaid carefully.

Members with questions can contact Cover Virginia or review official information on the DMAS website.

**CTA:** Read FAQs

**Link:** <https://dmas.virginia.gov/media/w1kd24e5/hr1-immigrant-eligibility-changes-12-16-2025-english.pdf>

## Newsletter SMS

### Message #1

Medicaid: Some noncitizen adults must meet certain immigration status requirements. Help patients review eligible statuses: [[newsletter SHORT\_URL]]

### Message #2

As of Oct. 2026, Medicaid requirements have changed for certain noncitizen adults. No changes for children and pregnant adults. [[newsletter SHORT\_URL]]

## Text Messages

### Message #1

New in 2027: Some noncitizen adults need an eligible immigration status for full Medicaid. Share details with your patients: <https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>

### Message #2

Medicaid reminder: New eligibility rules apply to some noncitizen adults. Encourage patients to review eligible statuses: <https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>

### Message #3

Reminder: Children and pregnant/postpartum adults are not affected by new Medicaid immigration status requirements. Review FAQs here: <https://dmas.virginia.gov/media/w1kd24e5/hr1-immigrant-eligibility-changes-12-16-2025-english.pdf>

## Website Text

Virginia Medicaid has implemented changes required by a federal law that affects some noncitizen adults.

**As of October 1, 2026**, non-pregnant adults must meet new immigration status requirements to qualify for full-benefit Medicaid coverage.

Eligible categories include:

- U.S. citizens, including naturalized citizens
- U.S. nationals
- Legal permanent residents (green card holders)
- Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants
- Cuban and Haitian entrants

Providers should keep in mind that some patients might face changes to their coverage. Members can check the [Virginia Medicaid website](#) for the latest information on eligibility requirements.



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL SERVICES

# H.R. 1 Noncitizen Eligibility Changes Toolkit

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*Advocate Messaging & Guidance*

*June 2026*



# 2026 Advocate Messaging Samples

## Newsletter Blurb

### Message #1

#### Upcoming Medicaid Eligibility Changes for Some Noncitizen Adults

Later this year, a federal law will require changes to Medicaid eligibility rules for certain noncitizen adults. **These changes are scheduled to begin October 1, 2026.**

Advocates should be aware that eligibility rules for **non-pregnant, noncitizen adults** will become more limited. To qualify for full-benefit Medicaid after October 1, 2026, non-pregnant adults will need to be a U.S. citizen or national or be a Lawful Permanent Resident, Cuban or Haitian Entrant, or a Compact of Free Association migrant and meet all other Medicaid requirements, such as income limits.

Virginia Medicaid will review current members who may be affected and will send notices with more information before any changes take place. These notices will explain what the new rules mean and whether any action is needed. Advocates should encourage members to watch for these notices and review them carefully.

No changes are happening yet. Coverage continues under current rules through September 30, 2026.

**CTA:** Review Eligibility Changes

**Link:** <https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>

### Message #2

#### Coverage for Noncitizen Children and Pregnant Members is Not Changing

The upcoming federal changes to Medicaid eligibility for noncitizens do not affect Medicaid or FAMIS eligibility for noncitizen children or pregnant members.

- Children under age 19 who are legally residing and meet other eligibility rules will continue to be eligible for Medicaid or FAMIS.
- Pregnant and postpartum individuals may qualify for coverage regardless of immigration status.
- Eligibility rules for children and pregnant members are not changing.

Noncitizens who do not have an eligible immigration status, but meet all Medicaid eligibility requirements, may still qualify for Emergency Services Medicaid or may be eligible for health coverage through Virginia's Insurance Marketplace.

Advocates should help members understand which rules apply to them.

Encourage your loved ones to keep their mailing address, phone number, and email address [up to date](#). Virginia Medicaid will share clear, easy-to-understand information as October 1, 2026, approaches.

**CTA:** Read FAQs

**Link:** <https://dmas.virginia.gov/media/w1kd24e5/hr1-immigrant-eligibility-changes-12-16-2025-english.pdf>

## Newsletter SMS

### Message #1

Medicaid eligibility changes for some noncitizen adults begin Oct. 2026. Help members learn who is impacted and what to expect: [\[\[newsletter SHORT\\_URL\]\]](#)

### Message #2

Medicaid eligibility changes are coming for certain noncitizen adults in Oct. 2026. Children and pregnant adults are not affected. [\[\[newsletter SHORT\\_URL\]\]](#)

## Text Messages

### Message #1

Medicaid eligibility changes for certain noncitizen adults start Oct. 2026. No action is needed yet. Stay updated: <https://linktr.ee/cardinalcare>

### Message #2

Medicaid reminder: Some noncitizen adults will have new eligibility rules in Oct. 2026. Encourage members to update contact info: <https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/members/update-your-information/>

### Message #3

Medicaid will provide guidance on noncitizen adult eligibility changes before Oct. 2026. Learn how this impacts members: <https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>



## Website Text

Starting October 1, 2026, Virginia Medicaid will begin making changes required by a new federal law that affects some noncitizen adults. One part of this law will update eligibility rules for non-pregnant, noncitizen adults enrolled in Medicaid. These changes have not started yet, and more information will be shared as federal guidance is released.

No action is needed right now. The Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) will share clear, easy-to-understand information before any changes take place, so advocates and members know what to expect. As updates become available, they will be shared through official DMAS channels.

Advocates should be prepared to support members in understanding these changes and responding to any notices received.

To stay informed, members should keep their mailing address, phone number, and email address [up to date](#). Visit the [DMAS website](#) for more information.

## Social Media Posts

H.R. 1 Social Media Posts for Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn

**Instagram:** @CardinalCare

**Facebook:** @CardinalCare

**LinkedIn:** @Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services

### Post #1

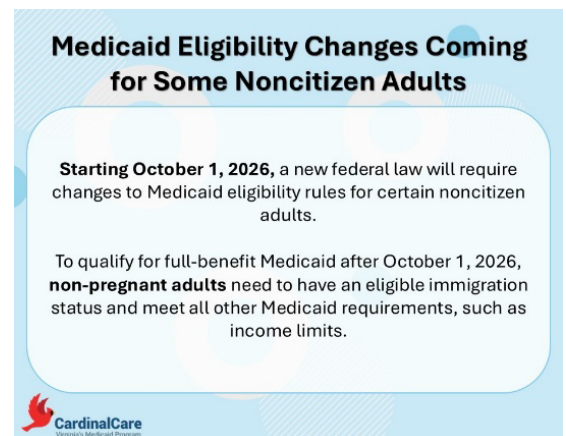
Important Medicaid eligibility changes are coming later this year for some noncitizen adults.

Advocates can help members understand what's changing and prepare for October 1, 2026. Coverage continues under current rules through September 30, 2026.

Virginia Medicaid will notify members who may be affected before any changes happen. Learn more and share with your loved ones:

<https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>

#CardinalCare #Virginia Medicaid #MedicaidUpdates



## Post #2

Reminder for advocates: Medicaid eligibility changes for some noncitizen adults are coming later this year.

Starting October 1, 2026, Virginia Medicaid will begin implementing federally required updates affecting some non-pregnant, noncitizen adults. These changes have not started yet, and no action is needed right now.

Virginia Medicaid will share clear information before any changes take place. Help reinforce accurate information and encourage your members to keep contact details up to date:

<https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/members/update-your-information/>

#CardinalCare

#VirginiaMedicaid

#MedicaidUpdates

### Medicaid Eligibility Changes Coming for Some Noncitizen Adults

**Starting October 1, 2026**, a new federal law will require changes to Medicaid eligibility rules for certain noncitizen adults.

To qualify for full-benefit Medicaid after October 1, 2026, **non-pregnant adults** need to have an eligible immigration status and meet all other Medicaid requirements, such as income limits.



# 2027 Advocate Messaging Samples

## Newsletter Blurb

### Message #1

#### **Important Update for Some Noncitizen Adults on Medicaid**

Medicaid eligibility rules for some noncitizen adults changed beginning October 1, 2026, due to a federal requirement.

Advocates should be aware that non-pregnant adults must be a U.S. citizen or national or have one of the following eligible immigration statuses to qualify for full-benefit Medicaid coverage, in addition to meeting income and other eligibility requirements.

Eligible statuses include:

- Legal permanent residents (green card holders)
- Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants
- Cuban and Haitian entrants

Individuals whose immigration status no longer qualifies them for full-benefit Medicaid may still be eligible for Emergency Medicaid, which covers emergency services only.

They have the right to appeal coverage decisions. Instructions are included in all Medicaid notices.

**CTA:** Share Eligibility Information Today

**Link:** <https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>

### Message #2 (Monthly Reminder)

#### **Reminder: Medicaid Eligibility Depends on Immigration Status**

For noncitizen adults, Medicaid eligibility depends on immigration status in addition to income and other requirements.

**Non-pregnant adults must have a qualifying immigration status to receive full-benefit Medicaid.** Adults without an eligible status cannot receive full Medicaid coverage but may still qualify for Emergency Medicaid for emergency services only.

Eligibility rules have not changed for children or pregnant and postpartum individuals. Children who are lawfully residing and pregnant individuals with qualifying incomes may still be eligible for coverage.

Advocates should remind members to:

- Read all notices from Virginia Medicaid
- Respond to requests to confirm or update information
- Report changes to immigration status as soon as possible

Members with questions can contact Cover Virginia or review official information on the DMAS website.

**CTA:** Read FAQs

**Link:** <https://dmas.virginia.gov/media/w1kd24e5/hr1-immigrant-eligibility-changes-12-16-2025-english.pdf>

## Newsletter SMS

### Message #1

Medicaid: Some noncitizen adults must meet certain immigration status requirements. Help members review eligible statuses: [[newsletter SHORT\_URL]]

### Message #2

As of Oct. 2026, Medicaid requirements have changed for certain noncitizen adults. No changes for children and pregnant adults. [[newsletter SHORT\_URL]]

## Text Messages

### Message #1

New in 2027: Some noncitizen adults need an eligible immigration status for full Medicaid. Share details with your members: <https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>

### Message #2

Medicaid reminder: New eligibility rules apply to some noncitizen adults. Encourage members to review eligible statuses: <https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>

### Message #3

Reminder: Children and pregnant/postpartum adults are not affected by new Medicaid immigration status requirements. Review FAQs here: <https://dmas.virginia.gov/media/w1kd24e5/hr1-immigrant-eligibility-changes-12-16-2025-english.pdf>

## Website Text

Virginia Medicaid has implemented changes required by a federal law that affects some noncitizen adults.

**As of October 1, 2026**, non-pregnant adults must meet new immigration status requirements to qualify for full-benefit Medicaid coverage.

Eligible categories include:

- U.S. citizens, including naturalized citizens
- U.S. nationals
- Legal permanent residents (green card holders)
- Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants
- Cuban and Haitian entrants

Members should visit the [Virginia Medicaid website](#) to learn more about current eligibility requirements.

## Social Media Posts

H.R. 1 Social Media Posts for Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn

**Instagram:** @CardinalCare

**Facebook:** @CardinalCare

**LinkedIn:** @Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services

### Post #1

Medicaid eligibility rules for some noncitizen adults have changed.

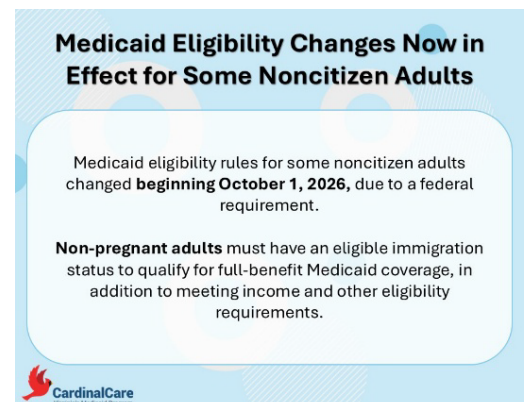
As of October 1, 2026, non-pregnant adults must have an eligible immigration status and meet all other requirements to qualify for full-benefit Medicaid.

Advocates can help members understand current eligibility requirements and available coverage options. Learn more and share with your loved ones: <https://dmas.virginia.gov/for-applicants/information-for-noncitizens/>

#CardinalCare

#VirginiaMedicaid

#MedicaidUpdates



## Post #2

Reminder for advocates: Medicaid coverage for children and pregnant members has not changed.

Eligible children and pregnant or postpartum individuals may still qualify for Medicaid or FAMIS. Those not eligible for full Medicaid may still qualify for Emergency Services Medicaid or marketplace coverage.

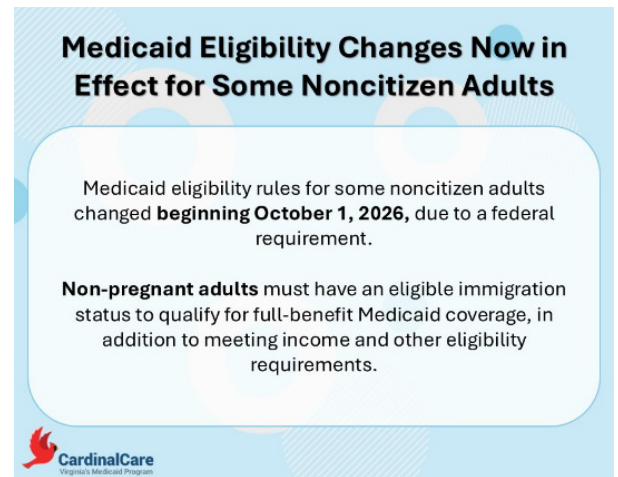
See FAQs for details:

<https://dmas.virginia.gov/media/w1kd24e5/hr1-immigrant-eligibility-changes-12-16-2025-english.pdf>

#CardinalCare

#VirginiaMedicaid

#MedicaidUpdates



**Medicaid Eligibility Changes Now in Effect for Some Noncitizen Adults**

Medicaid eligibility rules for some noncitizen adults changed **beginning October 1, 2026**, due to a federal requirement.

**Non-pregnant adults** must have an eligible immigration status to qualify for full-benefit Medicaid coverage, in addition to meeting income and other eligibility requirements.

 **CardinalCare**  
Virginia's Medicaid Program



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL SERVICES

# H.R. 1 Noncitizen Eligibility Changes Toolkit

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*Resources for Members*

# Need help applying for or renewing your Medicaid/FAMIS coverage?

## We can help!



**Enroll Virginia and Project Connect assisters  
are trained to give free and unbiased help  
with Medicaid and FAMIS health coverage.**

**They can help you navigate the process,  
including filling out application or renewal  
forms and turning in needed paperwork.**

**To learn more and find an assister near you,  
visit:**

**[https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/apply/  
find-help-in-your-area/](https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/apply/find-help-in-your-area/)**

**Scan here  
for more info:**







# Training on Virginia's Medicaid/FAMIS Programs

## Get the essential information you need to help Virginians navigate Medicaid/FAMIS eligibility and enrollment.

The Virginia Health Care Foundation's *SignUpNow* initiative provides **free, virtual training workshops** that are open to the public to teach staff or volunteers from “helper” organizations (e.g., clinics/hospitals, nonprofits, schools, human/social services agencies, etc.) about Medicaid/FAMIS – eligibility & enrollment requirements, how to apply, what the programs cover, renewals, and more.

### What We Cover

***SignUpNow – Medicaid/FAMIS Workshops*** go over the “ins and outs” of the Medicaid/FAMIS programs for children, pregnant people, and adults under age 65 (Medicaid Expansion).

***SignUpNow – Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) Workshops*** cover the Medicaid programs for Virginians who are 65 years or older, disabled, or blind, and/or who are eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare.

**All training workshops are available virtually (live or on-demand).**

**We are regularly updating these workshops to reflect the upcoming federal changes.**

### How to Register and Learn More

To learn more, register for a live workshop, and/or access on-demand content, visit [vhcf.org/workshops](https://vhcf.org/workshops), or scan the QR code below:



Questions? Call us at (804) 828-6062 or email [signupnow@vhcf.org](mailto:signupnow@vhcf.org).

# Virginia Free Clinics: A Lifesaving Investment

Ensuring the underserved have access to quality care

## — VAFCC Member Clinics Reported in CY23: —



**108,270**  
**VULNERABLE PATIENTS**  
(+32% OVER CY22)  
**322,462**  
**PATIENT VISITS**



**63 FREE CLINICS**  
**7,645 VOLUNTEERS**



**\$179+ MILLION**  
**WORTH OF CARE**

### PRIMARY CARE SERVICES



**87% HAVE**  
**ON-SITE MEDICAL**



**60% HAVE**  
**ON-SITE DENTAL**



**76% OFFER**  
**PHARMACY SERVICES**



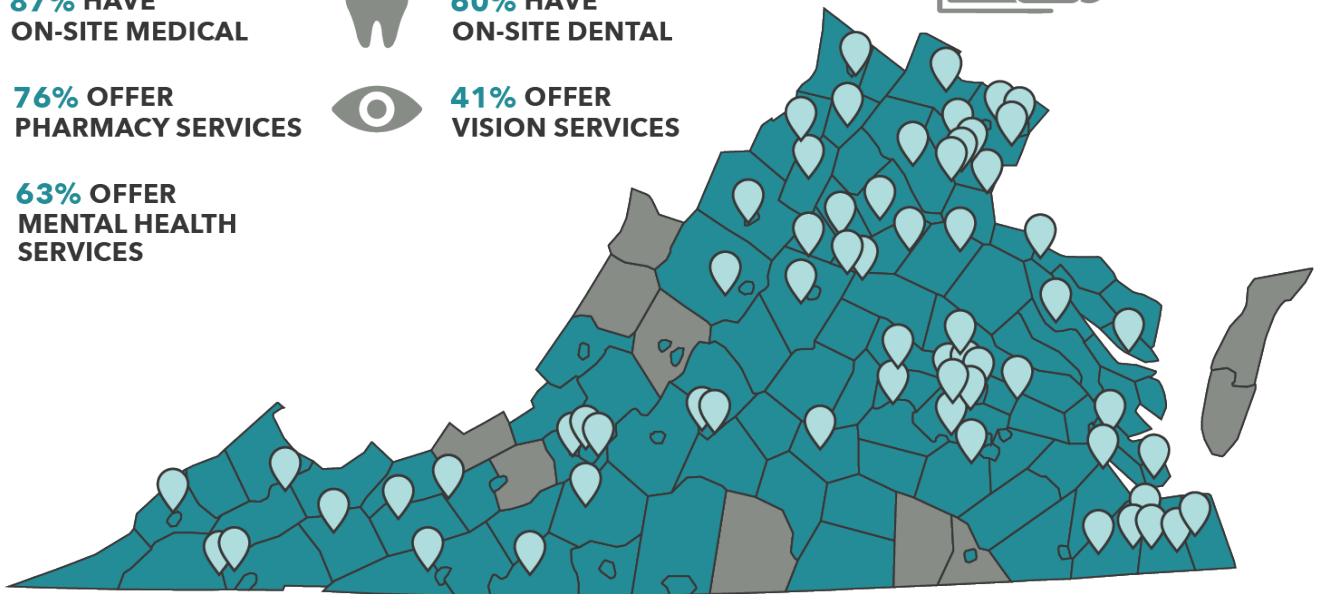
**41% OFFER**  
**VISION SERVICES**



**63% OFFER**  
**MENTAL HEALTH**  
**SERVICES**



**445,580**  
**PRESCRIPTIONS**



CLINIC LOCATION



AREA SERVED



<https://www.vafreeclinics.org>

Working towards a Virginia where all people have access to comprehensive, quality healthcare so that hardworking individuals and families are protected from healthcare crises.

#FREECLINICSCARE

SUPPORT **HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES.**

FreeClinics**Care.org**



# FREE CLINICS CARE FOR VIRGINIA.

Thanks to the generous and selfless support of donors, more hardworking families without healthcare insurance are able to receive the medical, dental, behavioral and pharmaceutical care they need, regardless of their ability to pay. If you believe, like we do, that healthcare is a fundamental right, help us make a difference.



## CARING FOR VULNERABLE RESIDENTS & COMMUNITIES

Free and charitable clinics provide integrated care to uninsured and underinsured patients, including medical, dental, pharmacy, behavioral health, vision, and social determinants of health services. They serve as efficient and high-quality medical homes constituting an essential statewide safety net of care for Virginia's underserved.

[www.VaFreeClinics.org](http://www.VaFreeClinics.org)

## PLAYING AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN PREVENTATIVE CARE

Good health is the foundation for stable employment, education, and maintaining social connections that support positive mental health. Virginia's clinics provide accessible, comprehensive, and quality preventative care as well as chronic care. This helps uninsured individuals remain healthy while also reducing unnecessary visits to the emergency room and avoidable hospital readmissions.

[www.FreeClinicsCare.org](http://www.FreeClinicsCare.org)



# VAFCC

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF FREE AND CHARITABLE CLINICS





# Community Health Centers

## What is a Community Health Center?

Community Health Centers (CHCs), also known as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) are non-profit, community-based, patient-centered organizations that deliver comprehensive, integrated primary and preventative health care services to everyone in their communities, regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay.

CHCs offer access to primary health, dental, behavioral health, pharmacy, and substance use disorder services in areas with limited access to affordable health care services. Locations are generally open during regular business hours. Some may have a have longer hours some nights or weekends. *Please note: CHCs generally do not provide emergency/hospital services. If you are experiencing a medical emergency, you should call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency room.*

## How do I know if I am eligible to receive care at a CHC?

Anyone is eligible to seek care at a CHC. CHCs do not accept or deny patients based on ability to pay, insurance status, age, sex, religion or race. Depending on how busy the CHC is, you may have to wait, or be on a waitlist, before you are able to get care.

## How much does care cost at a CHC?

CHCs accept many types of health insurance, including Medicaid, FAMIS and Medicare. If you don't have health insurance, the CHC uses what is called a "sliding fee scale", based on your income and family size, to determine how much you must pay for services.

## How can I find a CHC near me?

To find a Community Health Center in Virginia near you, visit [findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov](https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov).