

# Enrollment and Eligibility Information for Immigrant Families

**You may be eligible to enroll in a private health plan through Maryland Health Connection, the state's official health insurance marketplace, if you are present in the U.S. under certain immigration statuses or if you have applied for certain lawfully present statuses.**



You can still apply for health coverage through Maryland Health Connection even if not all of your family members have an immigration status that qualifies them for coverage. Individuals who are not requesting coverage will not be asked about their immigration status.

You do not need a Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) to apply for coverage. However, if you are requesting financial help and file taxes, you will be asked to provide your SSN.

Visit **MarylandHealthConnection.gov** to find out if you are eligible for free or low-cost health insurance.

## The following immigration statuses are eligible to enroll in a qualified health plan:

**Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) who entered the U.S. after August 22, 1996**

- Often called "Green Card holders."
- Applicant for LPR Adjustment with approved visa also may be eligible.

**Granted Deferred Action Status**

- An administrative order to pause expulsions may be granted for a limited number of reasons, such as age, physical condition or "compassionate reasons."

**Granted employment authorization**

**Asylees**

- Any individual with an approved application for asylum who also has employment authorization
- Any individual with a pending application for asylum, regardless of employment authorization status
- Any individual under the age of 14 with an approved or pending application for asylum

**Aliens who entered the U.S. before August 22, 1996**

- Often called "Green Card holders."
- Applicant for Adjustment with approved visa also may be eligible.

## Refugees

### Deferred Enforced Departure

Battered spouse, parent or child (Under the Violence Against Women Act or VAWA)

Alien paroled into the U.S. for at least one year

Trafficking victim and spouse, child, sibling or parent

- An applicant for Victim of Trafficking Visa also may be eligible.

### Veteran, active-duty military and their spouses

- Non-remarried surviving spouses and children of veterans or active-duty military also may be eligible.

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) in the U.S. from countries designated (see [USCIS.gov website](https://uscis.gov) for current list)

- An applicant for TPS with employment authorization also may be eligible.

An individual with an approved or pending application for adjustment of status

Lawful Temporary Residents under the Immigration Reform & Control Act (IRCA) and family unity provisions under LIFE Act

- Applicants for IRCA or the LIFE Act plus employment authorization also may be eligible.
- Applicants for Registry plus employment authorization also may be eligible.
- A child with pending application for Special Immigrant Juvenile status also may be eligible.
- Applicant for Suspension of Deportation or Cancellation of Removal plus employment authorization also may be eligible.

Any individual with an approved or pending application for withholding of Deportation Removal who also has employment authorization, or any individual under the age of 14 with an approved or pending application for withholding of Deportation Removal.

Citizens of Marshall Islands, Micronesia and Palau

Lawfully Present Resident of American Samoa under its immigration laws

Iraqi and Afghan Nationals who worked for or on behalf of the U.S. Government in Iraq or Afghanistan

Member of federally recognized Indian tribe or American Indian born in Canada

Cuban/Haitian entrant

Individuals on an Order of Supervision with employment authorization

Non-Immigration status not in violation, includes students, U and V Visas, HB-1 and J Visas

- Diplomat or foreign government official (A); foreign military personnel stationed in the U.S. (A-2)
- Temporary visitor for business (B-1); temporary visitor for pleasure, recreational study, or medical treatment (B-2)
- Transiting the United States (C)
- Crewmember (D)
- Treaty trader (E-1); treaty investor (E-2); Australian professional specialty (E-3)
- Student (non-vocational) (F)
- Employee of a designated international organization (G)
- Temporary professional worker in specialty occupation (H-1B); Free Trade Agreement professional: Chile, Singapore (H-1B1); Fashion model (H-1B3); Nurse for health professional shortage (H-1C); Temporary agricultural worker (H-2A); Temporary non-agricultural worker (H-2B); Trainee or special education visitor (H-3)
- Media, journalist (I)
- Exchange visitor (J)
- Intracompany transferee (L)
- Fiancé marrying U.S. citizen (K-1), Foreign-born spouse pending Green Card (K-3)

- Athlete or member of an entertainment group (P-1); Artist or entertainer (P-2; P-3)
- Parent or child of a Special Immigrant (N)
- Individual with extraordinary ability or achievement (O)
- Student (vocational) (M)
- Participant in an international cultural exchange program (Q-1)
- Religious worker (R)
- Spouse and children of a Lawful Permanent Resident (V)
- Victim of human trafficking (T)
- Victim of criminal activity (U)



Non-citizens whose Visa petition has been approved and who have pending application for adjustment of status

Individual with pending application to Extend/Change non-immigrant Status

Individual with pending application for Visa petition who has been granted employment authorization

Individual with pending application for relief under Convention Against Torture (CAT) who has been granted employment authorization

## Changes are coming to eligibility for financial help.

Starting January 1, 2026, federal law will change who can get financial help for health coverage. People will no longer be eligible for financial help if they:

- Are ineligible for Medicaid because of their immigration status, including those in Medicaid's five-year waiting period (such as new lawful permanent residents); and
- Have incomes below 100% of the federal poverty level (FPL).

Lawfully present individuals will still be eligible to enroll in a private health plan, but will no longer be eligible for financial help.

## Additional Information

### Medicaid:

Enrollment in Medicaid is year-round. To see if your immigration status may qualify you to enroll, apply at **MarylandHealthConnection.gov** or find free, in-person help at **MarylandHealthConnection.gov/help**.

Only certain immigration statuses qualify an individual to receive Medicaid. In addition, under most immigration statuses, you must be lawfully present in the U.S. for five years ("the five-year bar") before you are eligible for Medicaid, but a limited number of groups are exempt from the five-year requirement. Children under 21 are not subject to the five-year requirement. Pregnant individuals of any immigration status are eligible for Medicaid.

### Emergency Medical Services:

If you do not have any of the immigration statuses listed above and have had a recent medical emergency, you may be able to apply for Emergency Medical Services. For more information about coverage of Emergency Medical Services costs or to apply, please visit your local Department of Social Services at **mydhrbenefits.dhr.state.md.us/dashboardClient/#/dssMap**.