



## **IL Medicaid General Questions 2023**

### **How do I apply for Medicaid?**

- ✓ **Online** at <https://www.abe.illinois.gov> Questions: see the [ABE Customer Guide \(pdf\)](#) and visit the [ABE Customer Support Center](#).
- ✓ **Through the mail:** the downloadable written application can be accessed at: <https://www.dhs.state.il.us/onenetlibrary/12/documents/Forms/IL444-2378B-IES.pdf> ; espanol: <https://www.dhs.state.il.us/onenetlibrary/12/documents/Forms/IL444-2378BS-IES.pdf> Many find it helpful to look at questions from the written application to have everything ready when completing the application online.
- ✓ **In person** at your local Family Community Resource Center (FCRC). Find your FCRC here: [DHS Office Locator](#). Formerly known as “Public Aid” offices, the FCRCs are under the direction of the IL Department of Human Services (DHS).
- ✓ **By phone** call: 1-800-843-6154 to apply.

### **Do I have to reapply for Medicaid as an adult?**

- ✓ Yes, If you had All Kids (Medicaid) age 18 or younger, you must reapply for Medicaid as an adult. Apply before turning 19 and e-mail both [Jennifer.Frescura@Illinois.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Frescura@Illinois.gov) and [Matthew.R.Gurney@Illinois.gov](mailto:Matthew.R.Gurney@Illinois.gov) for help in moving to adult Medicaid. Share date of birth (DOB), Social Security number (SSN), & recipient identification number (RIN) which can be found on the medical card.
- ✓ If you are not enrolled in Medicaid as a child and are age 18 or older, first you should apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) with the Social Security Administration: <https://ssa.gov/benefits/ssi> and then apply for IL Medicaid.

### **Do I need to have SSI to apply for Medicaid as an adult?**

- ✓ No. If you do not have SSI, and have a disability, you can receive IL Medicaid if income eligible. You will have to share medical records with the IL Medicaid Client Assessment Unit (<https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=13401> ) to prove that you have a disability. You can attach documents on diagnosis/ treatment to a written Medicaid application; see: <https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=33698>

**As a parent, do I have to include my income and my spouse's income when I assist my adult son/daughter with their Medicaid application?**

- ✓ If someone applies for Medicaid and is a dependent on someone else's tax return, regardless of their age, the income of all household members must be shared.
- ✓ If you are over-income for Medicaid, due to household income of parents, but have SSI, the application will be re-processed. (This is the reason we suggest applying for SSI first).
- ✓ If you are 19 or older and not a tax dependent, other factors may exist. It is always best to include everyone in the household when applying for benefits.
- ✓ Medicaid will ask for parents' income during the application process for a person age 18 or younger.

**Can a parent or friend of a person with a disability help with the Medicaid application?**

- ✓ Yes. The Approved Representative form is part of the online and written application (If you are a guardian, attach a copy of legal guardianship to a written application or upload the guardianship document to the online application).

**If I cannot prove who I am, because I have not worked, what do I do?**

- ✓ See list of documents that can be used as proof of your identity and upload to the online application or attach to a written application. <http://www.dhs.state.il.us/onetlibrary/12/documents/Forms/IL444-3610.pdf>

**What if I have too much income/resources? Can I get Medicaid?**

- ✓ You pay for the cost of your medical care up to a set amount each month based on your income and assets. This is called your spenddown amount.

<https://www.illinois.gov/hfs/info/Brochures%20and%20Forms/Brochures/Pages/HFS591SP.aspx>

- ✓ If you are 18 or older and enrolled in the Adults with DD waiver (Home-Based Services) or in a community integrated living arrangement, [What is a Spenddown and Why Do I Have One?](#) [What is a Spenddown and Why Do I Have One?- Spanish](#)

### **As a parent, can my child get Medicaid if they are on my employee health insurance or my spouse's employee policy?**

- ✓ Yes! if income eligible. Medicaid pays last. Many people have health insurance through their employment or are on a parent's employer health insurance policy. Some also have Medicare because they receive Supplemental Security Disability Income (SSDI) either on the basis of their work history or as a Disabled Adult Child of a worker (parent) who is retired, disabled or deceased and received Medicare two years later.

### **If I am not Medicaid eligible due to my work income but I have a disability, what options do I have?**

- ✓ You may be eligible for Health Benefits for Workers with Disabilities, a Medicaid buy in program:  
<https://www.illinois.gov/hfs/MedicalPrograms/hbwd/Pages/default.aspx>
- ✓ If you received SSI for at least one month, you can retain Medicaid through 1619b: <https://www.ssa.gov/disabilityresearch/wi/1619b.htm>;
- ✓ or you can obtain Medicaid through Aid to the Aged, Blind & Disabled (AABD) you can be eligible through a Spenddown:  
<https://www.illinois.gov/hfs/info/Brochures%20and%20Forms/Brochures/Pages/HFS591SP.aspx>

### **How long does it take to process my Medicaid application?**

- ✓ The Illinois Medicaid Manual says that caseworkers have 45 days to process most Medicaid applications but 60 days for a Medicaid application based on disability.

**If I have a question about a Medicaid application, a temporary Medicaid card or change of status, can I contact Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) directly?**

- ✓ Yes. Call 877-805-5312

**If I am approved for Medicaid do I have to choose a Medicaid Managed Care Organization (MCO)?**

- ✓ Yes, unless you have private health insurance (known as Third Party Liability or TPL) or you are a person with Medicare and Medicaid AND enrolled in the Adults with Developmental Disabilities waiver (in this case you are exempt from Managed Care).

**If I have a question about my annual review of my income eligibility for Medicaid - my “redetermination” - who do I contact?**

- ✓ If you are enrolled in the Adults with Developmental Disabilities waiver (Home Based Services or a Community Integrated Living Arrangement), or on the PUNS waiting list, email: [DHS.FCS.DDWaiver@Illinois.gov](mailto:DHS.FCS.DDWaiver@Illinois.gov).

**NOTE: *The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (HFS) and the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) Division of Family and Community Services (FCS) are developing a plan to systemically review and complete annual redeterminations for all Medicaid beneficiaries.*** The plan is to complete annual redeterminations based on the month the person’s redetermination is due. The first month being targeted is July, 2023. Redetermination paperwork will be mailed to people whose redeterminations are due in July, beginning May 1, 2023. The paperwork will be due back by the end of June 2023.

All beneficiaries need to make sure their mailing address is correct in the benefit system. If you have a Manage My Case account, log into it: <https://abe.illinois.gov/abe/access/> and make sure the information is correct. You can create a MMC account at <https://abe.illinois.gov/abe/access> if you don’t already have one.

If you are unable to log in or create a MMC account, contact the ABE Customer Call Center at 1-800-843-6154. People can complete an online redetermination through ABE, Manage My Case, or complete and mail back the form they receive. **The redetermination form is not available on the HFS website.**

Some people do not receive a redetermination notice annually, as the data system used by the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS) is able to verify them automatically. This is called an “ex parte renewal”. Redetermination letters and forms are sent out to people when additional information is required.

### **What you need to know about SNAP benefits**

SNAP stands for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, often referred to by its former name - Food Stamps. This is a program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. You can apply for SNAP at the same time that you apply for Medicaid. However, the SNAP program has its own rules for income and eligibility. Since April 2020, all Illinois SNAP households received their regular monthly benefit and an Emergency Allotment to help manage food insecurity. With the change, **SNAP Emergency Allotments are ending February 28, 2023**. Ideas for help finding food:

**[SNAP Emergency Allotment Ending](#)** **[SNAP Emergency Allotment Ending- Spanish](#)**

- ✓ People who live in a not-for-profit group home Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA) for adults with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities, and who receive intermittent CILA waiver funding should apply for and maintain SNAP benefits.
- ✓ For people with disabilities who live at home, the income of all household members is counted for eligibility purposes up to age 22.
- ✓ For more SNAP information, see:  
<http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=30357>