

Navigating Medi-Cal 2026

Community Based Organizations



Changes to Medi-Cal will affect how some community members keep their Medi-Cal coverage. As trusted community partners, your help is essential in educating community members about these changes and how to stay covered.



2026 Key Changes

- **Effective January 1, 2026**, New Medi-Cal applicants (19 years and older and not pregnant) without satisfactory immigration status only qualify for restricted scope coverage.
- Members can now only receive **Medi-Cal benefits for up to 30 days** before their application date (previously 90 days).
- **Beginning July 1, 2026**, dental benefits will no longer be provided to adult members 19 years and older without satisfactory immigration status, except for emergency dental services.
- **Members under 19 years old or pregnant remain eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal** with dental regardless of satisfactory immigration status.

Upcoming Changes 2027 & Beyond

Work requirements will go into effect for some adults aged 19-64 on Medi-Cal starting January 1, 2027.

- Must earn at least \$580 a month from working
- Be in a job training program for at least 80 hours per month.
- Volunteer or do community service for at least 80 hours per month.
- Go to school at least part-time.

Six Month Eligibility Checks

Starting January 1, 2027, adults age 19-64* will have their eligibility checked twice a year instead of once. Missing deadlines could cause loss of coverage.



Scan or click here for the full list of changes to Medi-Cal.

* There are some exceptions, scan the QR code for more info.

Help Your Community Keep their Medi-Cal

Medi-Cal Renewal

- Members must complete a Medi-Cal renewal every year to keep their benefits active.
- A renewal packet is mailed to the member by their local county Medi-Cal office about 60 days before the due date.
- It is very important that members submit their renewal packet and all required verifications on time. If they don't, they may:
 - Lose their Medi-Cal eligibility
 - Lose their IEHP health coverage
 - Be reduced to restricted scope Medi-Cal benefits



Community Based Organizations (CBOs) can help people apply and manage their benefits.

In BenefitsCal, CBO staff can have either a CBO Manager account or a CBO Assister account.

- Submit applications
- Upload documents
- Generate reports
- Help community members keep their Medi-Cal!



www.benefitscal.com

For Additional Support Contact:

San Bernardino County

(877) 410-8829

Monday-Thursday

7:00 am – 5:00 pm

Friday

7:00 am – 4:30 pm

Closed on holidays

Riverside County

(877) 410-8827

Monday -Friday

8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Closed on holidays

IEHP

(888) 860-1296

Monday – Friday

8:00 am – 5:00 pm

Call (866) 228-4347 for
in-person appointment.