Medi-Cal Older Adult Expansion

On July 28, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 133 into law, which removed immigration status as a barrier to full-scope Medi-Cal eligibility for California residents ages 50 and over. This expansion helps to make California's health system more equitable and universal for everyone.

What is the Medi-Cal Older Adult Expansion?

As of May 1, 2022, a new law was passed that allows all eligible California residents who are 50 years old or older to receive free full-scope Medi-Cal. Under this expansion, **immigration status is not taken into account** and eligible individuals can qualify for Medi-Cal even if they are undocumented.

What benefits does full-scope Medi-Cal include?

Full-scope Medi-Cal benefits include:

- Primary
- Specialty
- Behavioral health
- Long-term care
- In-home supportive services
- Home and community-based services
- Transportation
- Vision (eyeglasses)
- Hearing aid coverage

Can enrolling in Medi-Cal hurt my client's immigration status?

No. Enrolling in Medi-Cal will not affect their current or future immigration status.

Californians ages 50 or older may qualify for more Medi-Cal benefits.

Contact your local county office today.

DHCS

When can my newly eligible client enroll in Medi-Cal?

Applying for Medi-Cal can be done at any time of the year.

What is the eligibility criteria for Medi-Cal?

Medi-Cal eligibility is based mainly on an individual's income. Medi-Cal eligibility can be determined by viewing the Medi-Cal qualifying income information chart on the following webpage:
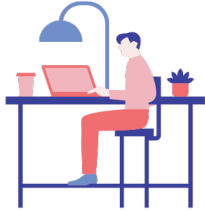
https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/Pages/DoYouQualifyForMedi-Cal.aspx

SCAN ME
to see Medi-Cal Qualifying Income Information

ENROLLING IN MEDI-CAL

For Orange County residents, there are multiple ways to apply for Medi-Cal:

Apply Online

Covered California has a partnership with the California Department of Health Care Services. Medi-Cal and Covered California use the same application. Clients can visit www.coveredca.com to apply online.

SCAN ME
for the online application

Clients can also fill out a single application that can be used to apply for several assistance programs (for Medi-Cal, CalWorks and CalFresh). The application can be found at www.mybenefitscalwin.org

SCAN ME
for a single application for several assistance programs

Apply by Mail

Applying for Medi-Cal can be conducted with a single application, provided in English and other languages. A downloadable and printable application is available on the following webpage: https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/eligibility/Pages/SingleStreamApps.aspx

SCAN ME
for a downloadable and printable application

Apply in Person

The Orange County Social Services Agency can help a client apply for Medi-Cal. To start the process, clients can locate their closest Social Services Regional Center. A list of offices can be found on this webpage:

https://ssa.ocgov.com/about-us/office-locations/office-location-list

The applicant should be prepared to spend at least two (2) hours to complete an application.

SCAN ME
for a list of offices

Apply by Phone

The Orange County Social Services Agency can be contacted during business hours Monday–Friday from 7:00am–5:00pm at 1-800-281-9799.

RESOURCES
DHCS: Medi-Cal Older Adult Expansion
https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/eligibility/Pages/OlderAdultExpansion.aspx

Justice in Aging: Older Adult Expansion
https://justiceinaging.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Medi-Cal-Asset-Limit-Elimination-and-Older-Adult-Expansion-FAQ.pdf

Health4All: Medi-Cal Older Adult Expansion FAQ
https://caimmigrant.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/H4A-OAE-FAQ-EN.pdf

ORANGE COUNTY HIV QUALITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

This is a project of the Orange County HIV Quality Management Committee and HIV Client Advocacy Committee. The HIV Quality Management Committee works to improve the quality of Ryan White services. If you have feedback or suggestions for future newsletters, please contact Kristin Alix at KAlix@ochca.com.

HIV Planning Council
Orange County, CA

OC health CARE AGENCY