

CHANGES ARE COMING TO MEDICAID

The Federal government has new laws that affect Medicaid. Rhode Island must make some changes to its Medicaid program to follow these new laws.

What's changing and when?	Who may be impacted?	What does it mean?
October 1, 2026 Changes to Eligibility for Some Non-Citizens	Adults who have Medicaid but are not U.S. citizens.	Only these groups of non-citizens will remain eligible for Medicaid: Lawfully permanent residents (after the 5-year waiting period); Cuban/Haitian entrants; COFA migrants (i.e. people from Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, and Palu); and children and pregnant people.
January 1, 2027 Community Engagement Requirements	Adults who have Medicaid through the "expansion program."*	Some Medicaid members will have to complete 80 hours of work, education, job training, and/or community service to keep their coverage. Members may have to show proof that they are meeting the requirement before application or before renewal.
January 1, 2027 6-Month Renewals	Adults who have Medicaid through the "expansion program."*	Some Medicaid members will need to renew their coverage every 6 months instead of once a year.
January 1, 2027 Changes to "Retroactive Medicaid" (Coverage for Past Medical Bills)	People with disabilities, adults age 65 and older, people applying for long-term services and supports or Katie Beckett, pregnant people, infants under age 1	A new federal rule will shorten how far back Rhode Island Medicaid can pay for past medical bills. Instead of covering up to three months before someone applies, Medicaid will only cover up to two months.

*The expansion program, or "expansion adults", typically refers to adults between ages 19-64 who are not pregnant, are not a parent/caretaker of a minor child, and do not have Medicare.

The State of Rhode Island will send Medicaid members important information about any changes that may impact them. **Members: Scan the QR code to learn how to update your contact information so you don't miss important changes.**



Learn more about what is changing with Medicaid and who will be impacted. Visit staycovered.ri.gov.



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STAY COVERED.**