

# State and Federal Assistance Programs and Public Health Emergency Resources

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Call 2-1-1 or visit [www.211.org](http://www.211.org) for referrals and information to local help with food, housing, employment, health care, counseling, and more. This free and confidential service is available to anyone in the United States.

Benefits.gov is an online resource to help you find federal benefits you may be eligible for in the United States.

Check out United Way's Community Resource Guide for additional local resources available to you:  
<https://www.keysunitedway.org/communityresourceguide>

Disaster Distress Helpline

1-800-985-5990

TEXT: "TalkWithUs" to 66746

[DisasterDistress.samhsa.gov](http://DisasterDistress.samhsa.gov)

## Medicaid

### What Is It?

Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provide free or low-cost health coverage to millions of Americans, including some low-income people, families and children, pregnant women, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

### APPLYING

**Online:** through Marketplace at: <https://www.healthcare.gov/>

Or through your state Medicaid agency: <https://www.myflorida.com/accessflorida/>

For more information, visit:

<https://www.healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/getting-medicaid-chip/>

### **New flexibility during Public Health Emergency**

- *No Medicaid terminations.* Medicaid eligibility for current recipients will be maintained from March through the last day of the month of the state of emergency (unless no longer resident or voluntary terminations). This means no Medicaid recipient will lose Medicaid eligibility during the state of emergency.

- *Redetermination/recertification times extended 6 months for beneficiaries due to recertify in April or May.*
- *Application time extended 120 days.* During this state of emergency, individuals applying for Medicaid may be unable to submit all the documentation required to process their application. Beginning with applications received in February 2020, the timeframe for individuals to submit any necessary paperwork will be extended to 120 days from the date the application was received. If the Medicaid application is approved, the individual's Medicaid eligibility effective date will still be the first day of the month that the initial application was received.
- *Coverage of all medically necessary services due to COVID-19, including testing and treatment.*
- *No limits on services that must be exceeded to maintain the health and safety of recipients diagnosed with COVID-19 or when necessary to maintain a recipient safely in their home.*
- *No prior authorization requirements for hospital, physician, advanced practice registered nursing, physician assistant, home health services, and durable medical equipment and supplies.*
- *Waiver of copayment for all services.*
- *No limits on early prescription refills, except for controlled substances.*
- *Coverage of 90-day supply of maintenance prescriptions when available at pharmacy.*
- *Reimbursement of out of state providers providing medically necessary services to Florida Medicaid beneficiaries.*
- *120-day extension of time to request fair hearings.*
- *Delay of fair hearings only in those instances when the recipient is continuing to receive services pending the outcome of the hearing.*

## **Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)**

### **What Is It?**

CHIP provides low-cost health coverage to children in families that earn too much money to qualify for Medicaid. In some states, CHIP covers pregnant women. Each state offers CHIP coverage, and works closely with its state Medicaid program.

### **APPLYING**

Can apply online or call.

**Phone:** Call 1-800-318-2596 (TTY: 1-855-889-4325).

**Online:** Fill out an application through the Health Insurance Marketplace, <https://www.healthcare.gov/>

You can apply for and enroll in Medicaid or CHIP any time of year. There's no limited enrollment period for either Medicaid or CHIP. If you qualify, your coverage can start immediately.

CHIP benefits are different in each state. But all states provide comprehensive coverage, including:

- Routine check-ups

- Immunizations
- Doctor visits
- Prescriptions
- Dental and vision care
- Inpatient and outpatient hospital care
- Laboratory and X-ray services
- Emergency services

For more information, visit: <https://www.healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/childrens-health-insurance-program/>

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