



# A Guide to Illinois Medicaid

## What is Medicaid?

Medicaid (also called the Medical Card or Illinois Public Aid) is a state program that provides health insurance coverage to children, individuals, and families with low incomes. Medicaid helps people afford doctor visits so that they can stay healthy. It also pays for emergency room visits, hospital stays, long-term care, prescription medications, and other services so that people can get the health care that they need. Medicaid recipients have very low monthly costs for their health care, and for most types of Medicaid, you do not have to pay any monthly premiums (monthly payments).

## Who qualifies for Medicaid?

Anyone who is an Illinois resident, low income, and does not have health insurance through an employer can apply for Medicaid. The income eligibility guidelines vary for Illinois Medicaid depending on an individual's age, whether they are a parent or pregnant, or have disability status. Applicants must be US Citizens or Permanent Residents (green card holders) for more than 5 years to qualify, however, children (18 and younger) and pregnant women of any immigration status can qualify.

## What benefits does Medicaid provide?

Once enrolled in Medicaid, recipients can receive inpatient hospital services, outpatient hospital services, home health care, clinical services, mental health services, laboratory and x-ray services, family planning services, transportation to medical care, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and prescription medications. Medicaid allows a maximum of four prescriptions per month, however, doctors and pharmacists can submit an authorization to request Medicaid cover additional medications when medically necessary. Medicaid also provides dental coverage to children and adults, however there are limitations on the procedure and frequency of treatments. A CCHCC staff member can provide information on what Dental benefits are covered through Medicaid.

## How do you apply?

You can apply for Medicaid online, by filling out the paper application, or in person at the local DHS Family Community Resource Center or at other service agencies. The Department of Human Services (DHS) processes the applications.

The following documents are required for all household members who are applying: birth certificates, social security cards, driver's licenses or state IDs, and proof of income documentation from all sources of income in the past month.

### The DHS Family Resource Center for Champaign County:

705 N. Country Fair Dr.  
Champaign, IL 61821  
(217) 278-5605

**Need help applying  
or want to know if  
you qualify?**

**Call CCHCC's  
Consumer Health  
Hotline at  
(217) 352-6533**

[www.healthcareconsumers.org](http://www.healthcareconsumers.org)

If you would like assistance from a CCHCC staff member to apply for Medicaid or see if you qualify, you may call CCHCC's Consumer Health Hotline at (217) 352-6533 to make an appointment.

*The website for the online application is: [www.abe.illinois.gov](http://www.abe.illinois.gov)*

## **What is a Primary Care Provider and Medical Home?**

When approved for Medicaid, it is required to choose a **medical home** and a local **primary care provider (PCP)** so that you can receive preventive care, like annual physicals and check ups, and ongoing health care. A **primary care provider** is a general doctor/practitioner who is *your* main doctor, understands your medical history, and coordinates your care with other specialist doctors when needed. A **medical home** is the clinic or facility where you get your care, generally at the health care provider where your primary care doctor is located.

## **Where is Medicaid accepted and where can I find a Primary Care Provider?**

Medicaid is accepted at most local health care providers, including:

### **Frances Nelson Health Center**

**(217) 356-1558 (Frances Nelson Health Center)**

**(217) 403-5477 (SmileHealthy Dental Center)**

The Frances Nelson Health Center provides primary medical services to patients of all ages. They accept Medicaid and have sliding scale services for individuals without insurance. Frances Nelson provides primary care, pre-natal care, counseling services, and others. They also have staff that can help individuals apply for Medicaid.

### **Carle Clinic**

**(217) 383-3311 (Carle's Central Call Center)**

Carle has primary care doctors at their Adult Medicine and Family Department at locations in Urbana, Champaign, Mahomet, Rantoul, Monticello, Tuscola, Mattoon, Danville, and Effingham. Medicaid beneficiaries also automatically qualify for a 100% discount through Carle's Community Care Discount Program, a program that provides financial assistance for medically necessary health care costs.

### **Christie Clinic**

**(217) 366-8000 (Christie Clinic's Central Call Center)**

Christie Clinic has primary care doctors at their clinic locations in Champaign, Urbana, Savoy, Mahomet, Rantoul, Monticello, Tuscola, Mattoon, and Danville.

## **Illinois Health Connect**

**[www.illinoishealthconnect.com](http://www.illinoishealthconnect.com)**

**1-877-912-1999**

Once you have been approved for Medicaid, it is required to inform Illinois Health Connect of your primary care provider. New beneficiaries often receive a form in the mail to return to Illinois Health Connect to designate their primary care provider. If this form is not returned by the date on the letter, Illinois Health Connect may choose a primary doctor for you. Also, if you already have a primary care provider, you can call 1-877-912-1999 to see if they are part of Illinois Health Connect.

If you do not have a primary care provider, you can search for providers that are accepting patients on the Illinois Health Connect website, or by calling the phone number above.

## **Champaign County Health Care Consumers**

**(217) 352-6533 · 44 E. Main Street, Suite 208, Champaign, IL 61820**

**[www.healthcareconsumers.org](http://www.healthcareconsumers.org) · [cchcc@healthcareconsumers.org](mailto:cchcc@healthcareconsumers.org)**

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