

HR1 (Public Law 119-21) Implementation

October 7, 2026

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The material in this slide deck is subject to change pending issuance of further guidance from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

2026 Minnesota State Legislative Session: What Passed to Conform with Public Law 119-21

Noncitizen Adult MA Eligibility Changes

Effective: October 1, 2026

MA eligibility for adults age 21 or older who are not pregnant is limited to U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, and noncitizens with the following immigration statuses: Lawful Permanent Resident, Cuban/Haitian Entrant, or COFA Migrant Status.

Six-Month Renewals

Effective: January 1, 2027

Eligibility determinations shift to every six months for adult expansion enrollees, excluding American Indian/Alaska Native individuals. This population will not be subject to periodic data matching.

Work or Community Engagement Requirements

Effective: January 1, 2027

Adult expansion enrollees who are not American Indian/Alaska Native and who do not meet another exception or exclusion, will be subject to work or community engagement requirements.

Retroactive MA Eligibility

State funds will be used to maintain three months retroactive MA eligibility through December 31, 2027.

Starting January 1, 2028, retroactive MA eligibility will be limited to one month before the date of application for the adult expansion population, and two months for all other Medicaid eligibility groups.

Noncitizen Adult MA Eligibility Changes

Reminder: Noncitizen Adult MA Eligibility Changes

What Changed

MA ended for certain noncitizen adults starting Oct. 1, 2026, who do not have an eligible immigration status.

Who Is Affected

This change applies to noncitizen adults age 21 or older who are not pregnant, with certain immigration statuses such as refugees, asylees, Afghan and Ukrainian humanitarian parolees, trafficking victims, battered noncitizens, and qualified noncitizen veterans. They are not eligible for MA starting Oct. 1, 2026.

Who is still eligible?

Noncitizens adults (age 21 or older) , who are not pregnant, with the following immigration statuses and who meet all other MA criteria will continue to be eligible for MA.

- **Lawful permanent residents** (LPRs or “green card holders”) who satisfy a five-year waiting period or meet an exception to the five-year waiting period
- **Cuban or Haitian entrants**
- **Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants** – people who are citizens of Micronesia, Palau and the Marshall Islands.

 Note, children under age 21 who are lawfully present and people who are pregnant regardless of their immigration status will still be eligible for MA.

Transition to MinnesotaCare

**Lawfully present
noncitizen enrollees
who are ineligible
for MA may be
eligible for
MinnesotaCare**

Who could transition to MinnesotaCare?

Lawfully present noncitizen adults age 21 or older who are not pregnant. Lawfully present immigration statuses include:

- Afghan Humanitarian Parolees
- American Indian noncitizens (meaning noncitizen American Indians born in Canada or noncitizen members of a federally recognized Indian tribe)
- Asylees
- Conditional Entrants
- Refugees
- Victims of severe trafficking (including T nonimmigrant/T-Visa holders)
- Ukrainian Humanitarian Parolees
- Individuals granted withholding of deportation or removal
- Battered noncitizens
- Individuals paroled for one year or more

Individuals who are age 21 or over and not pregnant with these immigration statuses applying to Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) after October 1, 2026 could be eligible for MinnesotaCare.

Noncitizen Adult MA Eligibility – Transition to MinnesotaCare

How did DHS assist with transitioning eligible enrollees to MinnesotaCare?

- Most impacted noncitizen adult MA enrollees did not need to act for their MinnesotaCare eligibility to be redetermined.
 - Their case records had information needed for a MinnesotaCare redetermination. .
 - These enrollees may need to pay a premium for their coverage to begin.
- Certain impacted noncitizen adult MA enrollees have to take action for MinnesotaCare eligibility to be determined. DHS mailed an informational notice to these people in August. MA closing notices were mailed in September.
- People whose MA closed October 1st must reapply to be determined for MA, Emergency MA or for MinnesotaCare.

Anticipated Transitions

Enrollee eligibility determinations and transitions will continue to occur over the coming weeks, and these numbers will change.

- Over 4,000 individuals were reassessed as eligible for MinnesotaCare.
 - Eligibility and premium notices were generated and sent.
 - Individuals must make a premium payment in order for coverage to begin.
 - Some enrollees may have a \$0 premium.
- Approximately 200 individuals were not eligible for MinnesotaCare and/or were referred to MNsure for potential QHP eligibility.
- Approximately 600 people must take action to request a MinnesotaCare eligibility determination.

Noncitizen Adult MA Eligibility Changes Materials

Medical Assistance changes on Oct. 1, 2026, affecting certain noncitizen adults

Some noncitizen adults no longer qualify for Medical Assistance (MA) because of federal changes starting Oct. 1, 2026.

Adults who can keep MA:

To keep MA starting Oct. 1, 2026, noncitizens age 21 or older who are not pregnant, must have one of these immigration statuses:

- Lawful Permanent Resident (green card holders) who satisfy a five-year waiting period, or meet an exception to the waiting period,
- Cuban or Haitian Entrant, or
- Compact of Free Association (COFA) Migrant (from the Marshall Islands, Micronesia or Palau).

The federal law changes do not impact MA eligibility for noncitizen individuals who are:

- Children under age 21 with any lawful present status
- People who are pregnant regardless of their immigration status

These changes do not impact U.S. citizens or U.S. nationals.

How will you know if you keep or lose coverage?

The Minnesota Department of Human Services will notify you by mail if your MA coverage will be ending.

The Minnesota Department of Human Services will review case information for people who no longer qualify for MA to see if they qualify for another state health care program. Noncitizen individuals who meet other program criteria may qualify for MinnesotaCare or another health care program.

People who lose MA coverage will receive a notice by mail of your change in program eligibility or if more information is needed.

- Some people who qualify for MinnesotaCare must pay a premium before coverage begins. If you are required to pay a premium, you will be mailed a billing notice. The premium amount depends on your income, family size and the number of family members enrolled in the program. Learn more about MinnesotaCare at mn.gov/dhs/health-care/minnesotacare/.

Flip over for more information and resources.



Scan for more information.

Medical Assistance changes on Oct. 1, 2026, affecting certain noncitizen adults

Communications for partner organizations: Text for email, web portal or letter and call script

Text for email, web portal or letter

Option: Long version

Subject line: Changes to who can get Medical Assistance Oct. 1, 2026 – affects certain noncitizen adults

Please read and share with others. We also recommend watching for mail from the Minnesota Department of Human Services and reading and replying immediately if needed. You can visit their website at <https://mn.gov/dhs/federalchanges/noncitizen-adults/> for more information.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need more information. For more information, please contact us at ma@mn.gov or call 1-800-552-3343.

What is changing?

Starting Oct. 1, 2026, a federal law change limits noncitizen eligibility for Medical Assistance. Some noncitizen adults age 21 or older who are not pregnant, will no longer qualify for Medical Assistance (MA) – Minnesota's Medicaid program.

Who can keep MA:
These changes do not affect U.S. citizens or U.S. nationals.

To keep MA starting Oct. 1, 2026, noncitizens age 21 or older who are not pregnant, must have one of these immigration statuses:

- Lawful Permanent Resident (green card holders) who satisfy a five-year waiting period or meet an exception to the waiting period,
- Cuban or Haitian Entrant, or
- Compact of Free Association (COFA) Migrant (from the Marshall Islands, Micronesia or Palau).

MA coverage continues to be available to noncitizens who are:

- Children under age 21 who are lawfully present
- People who are pregnant regardless of their immigration status

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Noncitizen Medical Assistance Eligibility Changes: Frequently Asked Questions

Communications for partner organizations: Frequently asked questions

Overview

A federal law changes which immigration statuses qualify for Medical Assistance. Some noncitizen adults age 21 or older who are not pregnant, will no longer qualify for Medical Assistance (MA) – Minnesota's Medicaid program. This change does not affect U.S. citizens or U.S. nationals.

Starting Oct. 1, MA will be limited to fewer groups. To qualify, noncitizens age 21 or older who are not pregnant, must be a: 1. Lawful Permanent Resident (Green Card) who satisfy a five-year waiting period or meet an exception to the waiting period, 2. Cuban or Haitian Entrant, or 3. Compact of Free Association (COFA) Migrant (from the Marshall Islands, Micronesia or Palau).

MA coverage will also still be available to: 1. Children under age 21 with any lawfully present status and 2. People who are pregnant regardless of their immigration status.

Do you know about the letter?
The letter is about who can get MA starting Oct. 1, 2026, based on immigration status. It affects certain noncitizen adults. The Minnesota Department of Human Services sent letters to people who may be affected at the end of June. Translated versions of the letter are available in Spanish, Hmong, Somali, Dari, Karen, Pashto and Russian in the Tools for partners section at <https://mn.gov/dhs/federalchanges/tools-for-partners>.

Where can I get more information?
Go to the Minnesota Department of Human Services website at <https://mn.gov/dhs/federalchanges/noncitizen-adults/>. It has information about who is affected, when it happens, what people should do and where to go for help.

Who will be able to get Medical Assistance?
The Oct. 1, 2026, changes to Medical Assistance DO NOT affect U.S. citizens or U.S. nationals.

To keep MA starting Oct. 1, noncitizens age 21 or older who are not pregnant, must be a: 1. Lawful Permanent Resident (green card holders) who satisfy a five-year waiting period or meet an exception to the waiting period, 2. Cuban or Haitian Entrant, or 3. Compact of Free Association Migrant.

MA coverage will still be available to: 1. Children under age 21 with a lawfully present status and 2. People who are pregnant regardless of their immigration status. You can get more information on the Minnesota Department of Human Services website at <https://mn.gov/dhs/federalchanges/noncitizen-adults/>.

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mn.gov/dhs/federalchanges/tools-for-partners/

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MA for 19-20 Year-Olds

Applicable Individuals: 19- and 20-year-olds

- Minnesota created a reasonable classification of children ages 19 through 20 in our Medicaid state plan prior to the Affordable Care Act. This eligibility group was converted to MA children ages 19-20, with an income limit of 133% FPG in 2014.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently informed us that states that extend MA eligibility to children through age 20, must evaluate 19 and 20-year-olds under the MA adult expansion group.
 - If eligible, they must be enrolled in this group. All the requirements of the eligibility category apply including six-month renewals and work or community engagement requirements.
 - If ineligible, including due to not meeting work or community engagement requirements, MA eligibility must be determined under all other bases, including the child category.
- We are planning to implement this change next year. More details to come. You will start to see “age 21” changed to “age 19”.

Tools for partners

New general awareness materials



Printable 8½ x 11 flyer



Printable 5 x 7 flyer

Updates to the Renewal Lookup Tool

Purpose: Beginning Jan. 1, 2027, federal law requires some people to meet [new work requirements](#) to keep their Medical Assistance. They will need to satisfy the requirements by:

- Meeting an exclusion or exception, or
- Completing a qualifying activity in a month since their last Medical Assistance renewal.

Action point: We are asking enrollees for help preparing for their 2027 renewal by using the [lookup tool](#) to report a qualifying exemption or a qualifying activity (such as volunteering).

Important: This functionality has been extended through November 30, 2026.



Sharing this information will not affect current Medical Assistance coverage, but may make the 2027 renewal process easier.

Renewal Lookup Tool materials

8:30

Enrollment Information

Showing information for: **Donovan, Kylan**

Case Number: 20000028

Member Number: 10000019

Work or Community Engagement

Attestation

Information is needed to help us get ready for your renewal in 2027.

Renewal Information

Unless otherwise stated, the information below reflects information in our systems as of **June 5, 2026**.

Renewal Date, Mailing Address, and Servicing Agency

Watch for your renewal paperwork in the mail in June, mnrenewallookup.com.

Instructional video
vimeo.com/1204300762

Flyer

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WHEN IS MY RENEWAL?

Case Number

Member Number

SUBMIT

Get ready for your 2027 Medical Assistance renewal

Federal changes starting in 2027 require that some adults with Medical Assistance may need to meet new work reporting and community engagement requirements to get or keep coverage. Some people may qualify for an exemption.

This change applies to adults who:

- Are age 21 to 64
- Do not live with their children under age 19
- Are not pregnant
- Do not have Medical Assistance based on disability

You are not affected if you:

- Get Medical Assistance coverage based on a disability
- Are a parent living with your children under age 19
- Are 65 or older
- Are 20 or younger
- Are pregnant

Get ready for your renewal in 2027

Find out how to use the Renewal Lookup tool if you expect to meet an exemption to Medical Assistance work requirements or complete a qualifying activity. Responses will help us prepare for your 2027 renewal.

CLOSE VIEW VIDEO

Report anticipated exemptions or qualifying activities

Use the Renewal Lookup tool if you expect to meet an exemption or to report a qualifying activity

Beginning Jan. 1, 2027, federal law requires some people to meet new work requirements in order to keep health care coverage through Medical Assistance. They will need to meet the new requirements by either meeting an exemption or having completed a qualifying activity in a month since their last Medical Assistance renewal.

You can help us prepare for your 2027 renewal by telling us now whether you expect to qualify for an exemption to the new work requirements or you expect to complete a qualifying activity like working or

Enter three of the four fields to confirm your identity.

Case Number

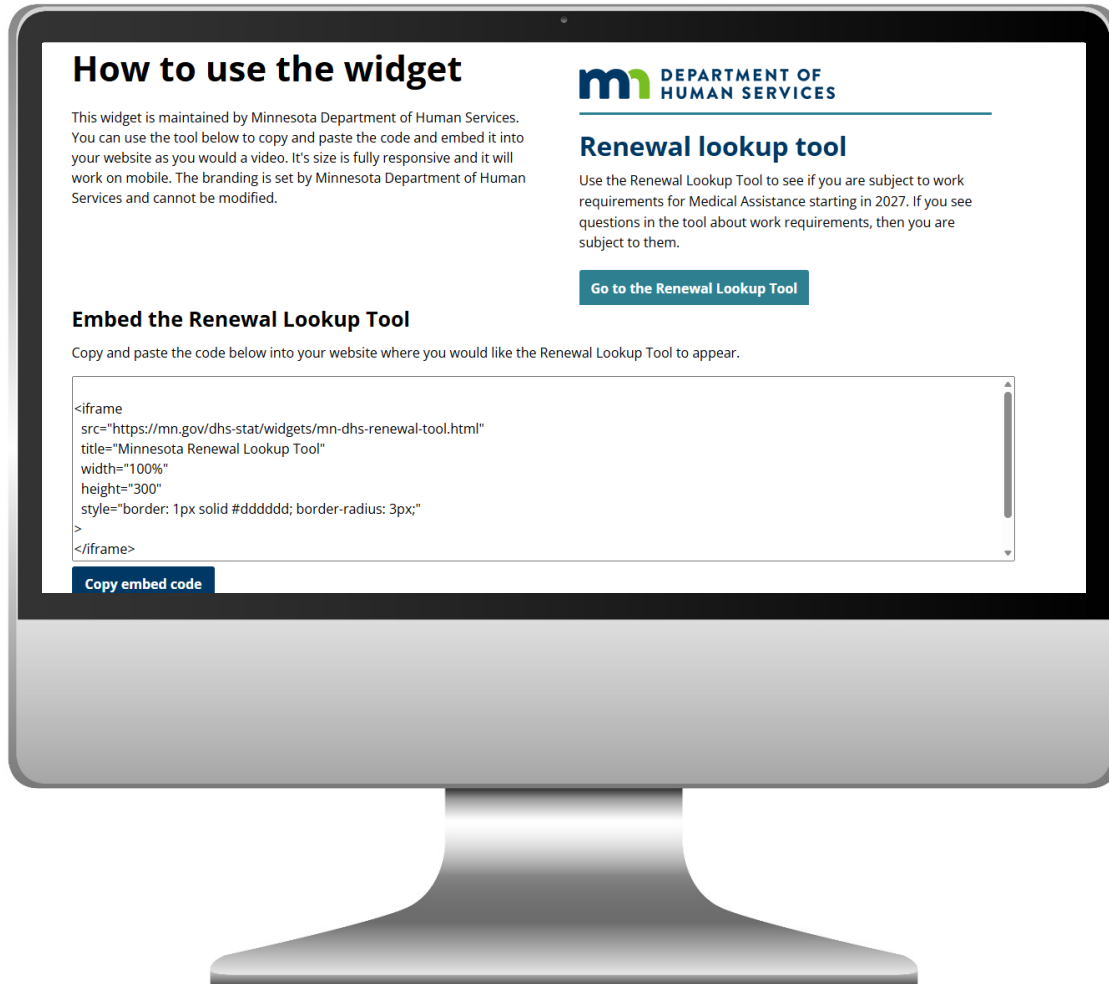
Member Number

Social Security Number (last 4 digits)

Date of birth

All materials available at mn.gov/dhs/federalchanges/tools-for-partners

Renewal Lookup Tool website widget



You can now embed a fully functional Renewal Lookup Tool widget directly onto a webpage on your site.

Find the embed code, instructions and pre-drafted copy in the [partner toolkit](#):

mn.gov/dhs/federalchanges/tools-for-partners

American Indian and Alaska Native exemption website



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Same Medical Assistance Coverage, Fewer Hoops

Medicaid work requirements and more frequent renewals start soon, but they don't apply to American Indian & Alaska Native people.

Skip the extra paperwork and keep the same coverage.

Claim your exemption now — fewer hoops, less hassle.

mn.gov/dhs/AmericanIndian



Get Ready for Your 2027 Medical Assistance Renewal

New federal work requirements and six-month renewals for Medical Assistance start on January 1, 2027, for some adults.

If you are an American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN) adult, you ARE NOT subject to these new requirements. You must report your AI/AN status to be exempt from work requirements and six-month renewals.

Make sure to report your AI/AN status so you receive your exemption.

If you currently have Medical Assistance:

- Use the [Renewal Lookup Tool](#) to tell us you are American Indian or Alaska Native.
- The tool will only ask you about work or community engagement exemptions if:
 - You are age 21-64,
 - You are not a parent or caretaker of children under age 19 living with you,
 - You are not pregnant, and
 - You do not receive Medical Assistance because of a disability.

If you apply for Medical Assistance:

- Be sure to answer "Yes" to the question on your online or paper application: "Are you or Is anyone in your family American Indian or Alaska Native?"
- Check the box for American Indian or Alaska Native if you are asked about work or community engagement exemptions.

Scan the QR code or visit mn.gov/dhs/americanindian/renewal-lookup for info and instructions on using the tool.



Handout

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Thank You!

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