KNOW YOUR BENEFITS:

A Guide for Immigrants

Pregnant Women

If you are a non-citizen who is currently pregnant, or thinking about becoming pregnant, here's what you need to know about upcoming Medicaid changes:

- Certain groups of lawfully present non-citizens such as refugees, asylees, and trafficking survivors will lose access to Medicaid in 2026.
- However, it's important to know that **lawfully present pregnant women will continue to be eligible for Medicaid** after October 1, 2026, in a *wide variety of immigration statuses*.
- Essentially, all pregnant women who are lawfully present, *in any form of immigration status*, are eligible for Medicaid except DACA holders. Pregnant women must meet other criteria for Medicaid eligibility, such as income.
  - Medicaid coverage for pregnant women lasts up to 12 months post-partum.
  - Medicaid coverage for pregnant women who are non-citizens has no waiting period – they can be eligible immediately if pregnant.

IMPORTANT:
Non-citizens who are pregnant women and children under 19 will continue to be eligible for Medicaid after October 1, 2026, even if they do not yet have their green cards.

To learn more about data privacy when applying for programs, please visit ncjustice.org/data-privacy.

- Pregnant women who are eligible for Medicaid include:green card holders, refugees, asylees, asylum applicants, victims of domestic violence, work visa holders, student visa holders, those with Temporary Protected Status, victims of human trafficking, and many more. For a full chart of eligible statuses, please visit ncjustice.org/immigrant-eligibility.
- Pregnant and breastfeeding women in *any* immigration status, or with *no immigration status at all,* can be eligible for:
  - Emergency Medicaid to cover labor and delivery, as well as post-partum hospital care
  - Women, Infant, and Children's Supplemental nutrition program (WIC)

TO FIND OTHER HEALTH CARE OPTIONS:

For help finding low or no cost health care / prescription drugs, applying for benefits, finding local food or housing options and more, check out our Health Resources sheet at www.ncjustice.org/health-resources.

The IMMIGRANT & REFUGEE RIGHTS team protects and defends the rights of immigrants and refugees through advancing pro-immigrant public policies and providing strategic legal representation.

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