

FAQs: Noncitizen Changes to Apple Health as of Oct. 1, 2026



Federal changes to Apple Health (Medicaid) may impact coverage for some noncitizens. Here are answers to some frequently asked questions about these changes.

Will I still qualify for Apple Health after October 1?

You still qualify for Apple Health after October 1 if your status is:

- U.S. Citizen or National
- Lawful permanent resident who has met or is exempt from the 5-year bar
- Compact of Free Association (COFA) Islanders
- Cuban-Haitian entrants

Children, pregnant individuals, and individuals within 12 months after pregnancy will be covered by Apple Health regardless of immigration status if they meet all other requirements.

Will I lose my Apple Health coverage because of my immigration or citizenship status?

People with the following immigration status will lose Apple Health coverage after September 30, 2026:

- Asylees
- Conditional entrants
- Refugees
- Individuals for whom deportation or removal has been withheld
- Victims of trafficking
- Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) self-petitioners
- Parolees, including: individuals paroled as part of the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2006; Afghans granted humanitarian parole between July 31, 2021 and September 30, 2023; and Ukrainians granted humanitarian parole between February 24, 2022 and September 30, 2024.

How will I know if this change affects me?

State agencies sent letters via mail and email to everyone affected by this change. If you didn't receive a letter, you may not be affected – or your contact info is out of date!

Keep your contact info updated with the state and report any changes to your status. See contact information below.

What can I do to keep health coverage if I'm no longer covered by Apple Health?

Individuals who lose coverage may still qualify for certain coverage types if they meet eligibility requirements. Coverage options include:

- Apple Health for Pregnant Individuals
- After-Pregnancy Coverage (APC)
- Emergency Medical (AEM)
- Family Planning Only (FPO)
- Medical Care Services (MCS)
- Apple Health Expansion, if enrollment is available
- Qualified health and dental plans, including plans with savings, through [**Washington Healthplanfinder**](#)

I am receiving ongoing treatment and medications. What happens if I lose coverage?

For anyone no longer qualifying for Apple Health coverage starting October 1, 2026, they will need to apply for Emergency Medical (AEM).

Learn more about Emergency Medical on the [**HCA noncitizens page**](#).

Who do I contact for more information?

Visit the Health Care Authority webpage for full detailed information, including fact sheets in 15 languages:

Online: [**HCA noncitizens webpage**](#)



If you are age 19–64:

Contact the Health Care Authority (HCA):



Call:
1-800-562-3022



Online:
[**Washington Healthplanfinder**](#)



In person:
[**Contact an HCA Community-Based Specialist near you**](#)

If you are age 65 or older, eligible for Medicare, have blindness or a disability:

Contact the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS):



Call:
1-877-501-2233



Online:
[**Washington Connection
\(Your Link to Services\)**](#)



In person:
[**Visit a local DSHS Community
Service Office near you**](#)

If you receive long-term services and supports, contact your case manager.