



Summary of Upcoming State/Federal Changes

Resulting from House Resolution 1 (H.R. 1) signed July 4th, 2025



| Date | Change | Details |
|-----------------|--|--|
| Jan 2026 | Medi-Cal Asset Limit Changes | <p>Asset limits are reinstated for aged individuals and individuals with disabilities, including Long Term Care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assets will be reviewed at application beginning Jan 1, 2026, and ongoing. ○ Individuals aided prior to Jan 1, 2026, assets will be reviewed at their annual renewal. ○ The asset limit is \$130,000 for one person. Each additional household member adds \$65,000 to the asset limit. |
| Jan 2026 | Medi-Cal Enrollment Freeze for UIS Participants ages 19+ | <p>MC will freeze new enrollments for federally funded full scope MC on 1/1/2026 for adults age 19 and older, without satisfactory immigration status. This group will no longer be eligible to enroll in full- scope MC even if they qualified previously under state-funded programs. New applicants will only be eligible to restricted MC which covers emergency services and pregnancy-related services such as prenatal care, labor, delivery and postpartum care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Individuals aided in full scope Medi-Cal prior to Jan 1, 2026, will stay covered regardless of their immigration status as long as they remain eligible and their annual renewal is completed. If they lose coverage, they will only be eligible to enroll in limited scope benefits, emergency and pregnancy-related services. ○ If coverage stops because of a late renewal or missing paperwork, they will have a 90-day grace period to reestablish eligibility. ○ Income-eligible children (0-18) and pregnant women can enroll in full scope Medi-Cal, regardless of immigration status. Full scope coverage is available for the entire pregnancy and one year postpartum. |

| | | |
|----------------------------|--|--|
| <p>Apr 2026</p> | <p>Amended Definition of “Eligible Non-Citizen” for CalFresh</p> | <p>H.R. 1 narrowed SNAP/CalFresh eligibility to certain non-citizen individuals who reside in the U.S. and fall within one of the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Noncitizen U.S. Nationals ○ Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR’s) ○ Specified Cuban or Haitian Entrants (CHE’s) ○ Residents under a Compact of Free Association (Palau, Micronesia, Marshall Islands) <p>Asylees, Refugees, Parolees (unless CHE’s), individuals with deportation or removal withheld, Conditional entrants, victims of trafficking, battered noncitizens, certain Afghan Nationals granted parole between 7/31/2021-9/30/2023, and certain Ukrainian Nationals granted parole between 2/24/2022-9/30/2024 are no longer eligible to CalFresh.</p> <p><i>* Effective with new applications 4/1/2026 forward. Ongoing cases: effective at next recertification beginning 4/1/2026.</i></p> |
| <p>Jun 2026</p> | <p>California’s Implementation of ABAWD Time Limits Begins</p> | <p>H.R. 1 expands SNAP/CalFresh’s definition of Able-Bodied Adult Without Dependent’s (ABAWD’s) to include adults aged 18 to 64 (previously 18 to 54) and parents with children aged 14 to 18 (previously 0 to 18). This new ABAWD policy is set for implementation in California effective 06/01/2026*.</p> <p>Individuals who are ABAWD are limited to three full countable months of benefits in a fixed 36-month period unless the individual is exempt from the ABAWD time limit or satisfies the ABAWD work requirement (20 hours per week or 80 hours averaged monthly).</p> <p>Potential exemptions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exempt from Work Registration ○ Age – Under 18 or over 64 ○ Medically Certified as physically or mentally unfit for work. ○ Residing in the same CalFresh household as a child under age 14 ○ Pregnant ○ Participating in an Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) Training Program ○ Indian, Urban Indian, or California Indian under the Indian Health Care Improvement Act <p>Veterans, individuals experiencing homelessness, and former foster youth under 25 are no longer exempt.</p> <p><i>*Effective with new applications 6/1/2026 forward. Ongoing cases: Review at next recertification beginning 6/1/2026.</i></p> |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| <p>July 2026</p> | <p>Dental Coverage Changes</p> | <p>Californians aged 19+ who do not have satisfactory immigration status will no longer be eligible to dental coverage. This includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Green card holders not exempt from the five-year waiting period, who have had their permanent resident status for less than five years. ○ PRUCOL (e.g., with temporary protected status or refugee status). ○ People with no immigration status, but who currently qualify under past Medi-Cal expansions. ○ People enrolled through a trafficking or crime victim assistance program. ○ Lawfully present immigrants who are older than age 20 and not pregnant. <p>Emergency dental care (such as treatment for severe pain or infection and tooth extractions) will still be covered for everyone, no matter their immigration status.</p> |
| <p>Oct 2026</p> | <p>Amended Definition of “Qualified Non-Citizen” that will affect Medi-Cal</p> | <p>H.R. 1 establishes a new definition for “qualified non-citizen” (QNC) for federal Medicaid eligibility benefits.</p> <p>Only the following QNC categories will remain eligible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lawful permanent residents ○ Specified Cuban or Haitian entrants ○ Residents under a Compact of Free Association (Palau, Micronesia, Marshall Islands) <p>Refugees, parolees, asylees, trafficking survivors, and similar groups no longer qualify for federally funded full-scope Medicaid.</p> |
| <p>Jan 2027</p> | <p>Work and Community Engagement Requirements in Medi-Cal Program</p> | <p>Work and Community Engagement Requirement begins for Medi-Cal’s adult expansion group (ages 19-64; aid code M1); unless exempt, must participate in qualifying activities for at least 80 hours per month.</p> <p>Qualifying Work or Community Engagement Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monthly earned income is at least 80 times the federal hourly minimum wage (\$580) ○ At least 80 hours of work ○ At least 80 hours of Community service ○ Enrolled at least half-time in an educational program ○ Enrolled in a work program ○ At least 80 hours of combined work, work program, community service, or school <p>Verification Frequency: Applicants will be required to demonstrate compliance with or exemption in the one month prior to the month in which they apply. For continued coverage, members will be required to demonstrate compliance or exemption in any one month during their renewal period.</p> |

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|---|
| | | <p>Exemptions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parents, guardians, or caretaker relatives, or family caregivers of a dependent child age 13 or younger ○ Pregnant or entitled to postpartum medical assistance ○ Former foster youth under age 26 ○ Meeting CalFresh work requirements ○ Meeting CalWORKs work requirements ○ Disabled ○ Participating in drug/alcohol treatment programs ○ Medically frail |
| Jan 2027 | Limits to Retro-Active Medi-Cal | <p>Retroactive coverage limitations begin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 month for adult expansion group (M1 aid code) ○ 2 months for all other coverage groups |
| Jan 2027 | 6-month Renewal | <p>Six-month eligibility renewals begin for adult expansion group (excluding members of tribes) in aid code M1. <i>New applicants will be assigned a 6-month renewal period, and individuals already active as of January 1, 2026, will move to a 6-month renewal schedule after completing their annual renewal for 2027.</i></p> <p>Populations exempt from 6-month renewal include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Individuals in any other coverage group ○ American Indians and Alaska Natives ○ Pregnant individuals or those in postpartum period ○ Children under 19 |

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| <p>July 2027</p> | <p>\$30 Monthly Premium per Person</p> | <p>\$30 premium, monthly per person, effective 7/1/2027 for Californians aged 19-59, who are not pregnant, and who have Unsatisfactory Immigration Status (UIS). Premium is based on immigration status and age, not income.</p> <p>Populations not Impacted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals with Satisfactory Immigration Status (SIS) • Pregnant individuals (including 12-month postpartum) • Children ≤18; adults ≥60 • Incarcerated individuals • Members in Aid Paid Pending a Fair Hearing <p>Full-scope Medi-Cal coverage for this group includes doctor visits, preventive care, hospital and emergency services, prescription medications, mental health and substance use disorder treatment, vision care, immunizations, and reproductive health services. If the premium is not paid, coverage will be limited to emergency and pregnancy-related services only. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) plans to contract with third-party vendors to handle billing, collections, notices, and premium refunds.</p> |
| <p>Oct 2028</p> | <p>Co-Pays</p> | <p>Requires implementation of copays for certain services for individuals above 100% FPL, excluding primary care, mental health, and substance use disorder treatment. Primary, prenatal, pediatric, mental-health, and emergency care remain exempt from copays.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Copays can range from \$1 up to \$35 per service (state option) ○ Administration of co-pays will occur at the provider level. |