Washington State Department of Social and Health Services
Economic Services Administration
HR1 – Immigration and Medical

King County Health – Lunch and Learn

Revised April 2025

Agenda

- CSD Programs and Services
  - Immigration changes and HR1
  - Cash – ABD/HEN (and associated medical)

- Where, How and When to Access Services
  - Community Services Offices
  - Customer Service Contact Center
  - Washington Connection

Overview

- House Resolution One (H.R.1) was signed into law on July 4, 2025, and contains numerous provisions that impact Apple Health (Medicaid) eligibility, including noncitizen coverage.
- These changes **do not** affect:
  - Children age 18 and under
  - Pregnant individuals
  - Emergency services (AEM)
  - Apple Health Expansion

Non-U.S. citizen definition change

- Effective October 2026, Apple Health eligibility will be limited to the following noncitizens:
  - Lawful permanent residents (who have met or are exempt from the 5-year bar)
  - Compact of Free Association (COFA) immigrants
  - Cuban-Haitian entrants

Non-U.S. citizen definition change

- Lawful permanent residents (LPR) are eligible for Apple Health if they:
  - Have met the 5-year bar; or
  - Are exempt from meeting it.
- The 5-year bar is a federal law that requires many qualified immigrants to wait five years before becoming eligible for federal Apple Health coverage, unless their initial status exempts them from the 5-year bar.

Armed service members on active duty, honorably discharged veterans, and family members who are lawful permanent resident are exempt from the 5-year bar.

Non-U.S. citizen definition change

- If an individual had one of the following immigration statuses, but is now a lawful permanent resident, they are exempt from the 5-year bar and will still qualify for Apple Health:
  - Amerasians
  - Cuban-Haitian
  - Victims of trafficking and their family members
  - Refugees
  - Asylees
  - Immigrants from Iraq or Afghanistan granted the following:
    - Special immigrant status
    - Special immigrant conditional permanent resident

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Benefit end dates for impacted individuals

- Coverage ends after September 30, 2026.
- Clients may be able to access other health care coverage for October 1 and beyond.
- Children and pregnant individuals continue to be eligible for Apple Health, regardless of immigration status, if they meet all other requirements.

Apple Health programs not impacted by HR1

- The following programs are not impacted:
  - Apple Health for Pregnant individuals
  - After-Pregnancy Coverage (APC)
  - Apple Health for Kids
  - Emergency Medical (AEM)
  - Apple Health Expansion (AHE)
  - Family Planning Only (state only)
  - Medical Care Services (MCS)
  - Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA)
  - Foster Care/Adoption Support
  - Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) for noncitizens

Cash

- Aged, Blind or Disabled

Link: https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/community-services-offices/aged-blind-or-disabled-abd-program

Cash Programs

- Housing and Essential Needs

Link: https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/community-services-offices/housing-and-essential-needs-hen-referral-program

Medical Programs

- Medical Care Services

Link: dshs.wa.gov/esa/community-services-offices/medicare-savings-program

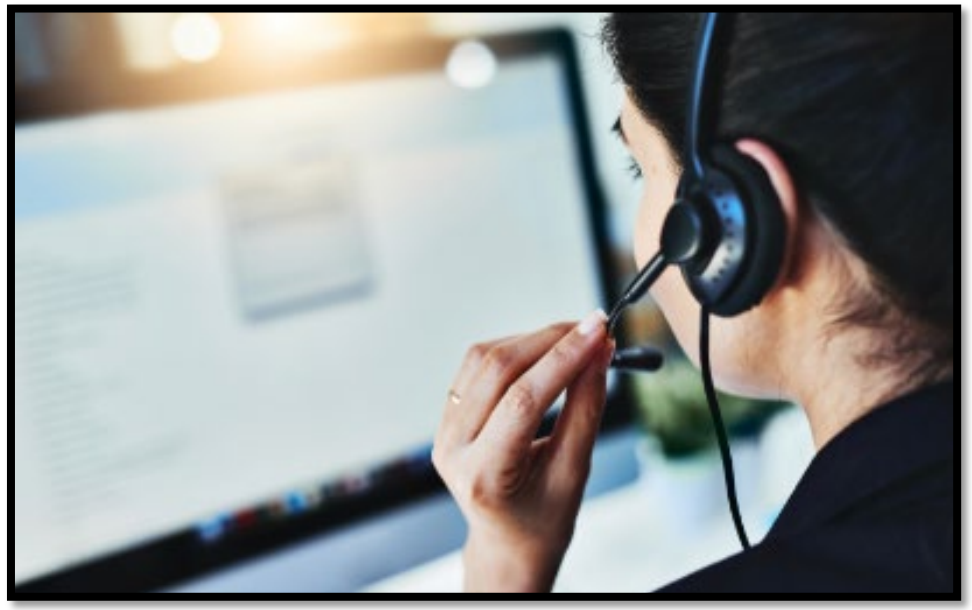
ABD/HEN – Related Medical Programs

Medical Care Services

- Active on ABD or HEN or an “immigrant survivor of certain crimes” (SCC)
- Not eligible for federal medicaid due to immigration status
- Covers “medically necessary services” only

How to Access Services

Customer Service Contact Center
1-877-501-2233



- Phone hours 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday; interview hours 8 a.m. – 2 p.m., Monday – Friday.
- Applications, reviews and changes.
- Case maintenance.
- Virtual Case Management Center.
- Self-service options.
- Customer inquiry.
- Language support.

How to Access Services

WashingtonConnection.org

- Services available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Apply for cash, Basic Food, Working Connections Child Care and select medical programs.
- Report changes and complete an annual Eligibility Review.
- Find other programs and services.
- Access the Client Benefit Account:
  - Monitor documents submitted.
  - Access the pre-filled Mid-Certification Review.

How to Access Services

Community Services Offices

Office Locator | www.dshs.wa.gov/office-locations

- 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday.
- Interview hours 8 a.m. – 2 p.m., Monday – Friday.
- Applications, reviews and changes.
- Pick up an EBT card, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Reach a WorkFirst case manager or social worker.
- Customer inquiry.
- Language support.

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Questions?