

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Health Care Finance



Uninsured DC Residents Can Apply for Free Health Insurance

District Offers Free Coverage through Medicaid, DC Healthcare Alliance, or Immigrant Children’s Program – Help for Residents Affected by COVID-19

District Offers 3 Public Health Coverage Programs

The District offers three public health coverage programs:

- Medicaid;
- DC Healthcare Alliance (Alliance); and
- Immigrant Children’s Program (ICP)

Medicaid is available to low-income District residents that are U.S. citizens or qualified immigrants and meet all non-financial and financial eligibility requirements. The Alliance and ICP programs are available to low-income District residents who are ineligible for Medicaid, regardless of citizenship status. District residents who experience a loss of income as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency should consider applying for these programs for assistance during and beyond the emergency period.

Non-Financial and Financial Criteria for Health Care Coverage

For most District residents applying for health coverage, eligibility depends on whether they meet non-financial and income standards. The income limit depends on a household’s size and qualifying condition and increases based on the size of the household. Examples of households are provided in the chart below which indicates figures for calendar year 2021. For more information or income limits for other household sizes, links for: [Medicaid](#), [Alliance](#), and [ICP](#).

Eligibility Category	Program	Income Limit
Childless Adults	Medicaid	215% federal poverty level (FPL) – up to \$2,307.67/month (individual) or \$3,121.08 (couple)
	Alliance (21 and older)	200% FPL – up to \$2,146.67/month (individual) or \$2,903.33 (couple)
Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD)	Medicaid	100% FPL – up to \$1,073 (individual) or \$1,452 (couple); Asset Limit of \$4,000 (individual) or \$6,000 (couple)
Long Term Care	Medicaid	300% SSI – up to \$2,382 (individual) or \$3,573 (couple); Asset Limit of \$4,000 (individual) or \$6,000 (couple)
Children (0-18) and Pregnant Women	Medicaid	324% FPL – up to \$5,929.20/month (household of 3)
	Alliance (21 and older)	200% FPL – up to \$3,660/month (household of 3); Asset limit of \$4,000 (individual) or \$6,000 (couple)
	ICP (0-20)	200% FPL – up to \$3,660/month (household of 3)
Parent/Caretaker Relatives	Medicaid	221% FPL- up to \$4,044.30/month (household of 3)

What Benefits Are Available?

The District’s public health insurance programs include, at a minimum:

- Doctor Visits
- Hospitalization
- Medically necessary transportation
- Durable medical equipment
- Emergency ambulance services
- Hospice services
- Laboratory services
- Medical supplies
- Physician services
- Nurse Practitioner services
- More

Signing up for Coverage:

Online: Visit www.DCHealthLink.com or download the “District First” app in the Apple or Google Play stores

By Phone: Call the DC Health Link Customer Service at 1-855-532-5465.

By Mail or Fax: Submit a completed application from www.DCHealthlink.com by fax to 202-671-4400 or by mail to:
 Department of Human Services
 Economic Security Administration
 Case Record Management Unit
 P.O. Box 91560
 Washington, DC 20090

In-Person: Visit a service center with all documentation. Service centers are open 7:30-4:45 Monday-Friday. Currently, the Anacostia, Congress Heights, and H Street locations are open. For more information, visit dhs.dc.gov/service/find-service-center-near-you.

	<i>Alliance (21 and older)</i>	200% FPL – up to \$3,660/month (household of 3); Asset limit of \$4,000 (individual) or \$6,000 (couple)
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For those who have lost work, some income from unemployment insurance is counted as income for the purposes of Medicaid. However, the [Economic Impact Payment](#) (also known as a stimulus check), *enhanced Child Tax Credit*, District enhanced unemployment benefits, and [Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation](#) (\$600 special unemployment insurance payment) **will not count as income for determining eligibility for most adults.**

Long-Term Care, Medicare, and Medical Expenses: You may qualify for Medicaid if you need long term care services and supports or have high medical bills or expenses. Medicaid may also be able to assist Medicare beneficiaries in the District with their premiums for Parts A and B.

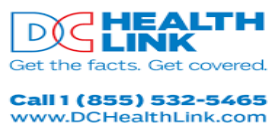
Medical Conditions: You may qualify for Medicaid if you have certain medical conditions and have income under a certain level. These conditions could include having breast or cervical cancer, children with complex medical conditions, and more.

You May Qualify Based on Categorical Eligibility

Individuals may be qualified for DC Medicaid based on being categorically eligible and do not need to apply. Individuals receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment are automatically eligible for Medicaid, along with individuals under an Adoption Assistance Agreement, in District foster care under the care and custody of Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA), and former foster care youth are also considered categorically eligible.

Medicaid Extension for Those Already Enrolled

If you were enrolled in Medicaid on March 1, 2020 or have enrolled in Medicaid since March 1, 2020, then your eligibility has been automatically extended during the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE). For those enrolled in Alliance or ICP, the District’s PHE ended on July 25, 2021. Therefore, if your Alliance or ICP renewal was due and you have been contacted to submit renewal forms, please complete and return your renewal. If you have questions regarding your renewal due date, please contact the DHS Call Center.



Call the DHS Call Center Main Line: 202-727-5355
Web Portal: <https://dcbenefits.dhs.dc.gov/>
District Direct app: <https://dhs.dc.gov/districtfirst>

Applying for Other District Benefits

Residents may also be eligible for assistance through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP). Applications can be submitted:

Online: DHS web portal at <https://dcbenefits.dhs.dc.gov/> or **download the “District Direct” app** in the Apple or Google Play stores

In-Person: Visit a [DHS Service Center](#) (applications can also be picked-up at an open DHS Service Center). [You may also download the PDF*](#), complete, sign, and drop.

By Mail: [Download the PDF*](#), complete, sign, and send to:

Department of Human Services
Economic Security Administration
Case Record Management Unit
P.O. Box 91560
Washington, DC 20090

*The DHS Call Center at (202) 727-5355, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m., can also mail you an application.

