



How to Apply for Health Care Coverage

Call toll free 1-877-410-8809

Everyone needs health care coverage. Regular checkups and other preventive health care are important. Getting medical bills covered is important, too.

How do I apply?

You don't need to decide which program to apply for.

To begin the application process, you can call 800-300-1506 or use any of the methods below. All applicants are evaluated for the coverage programs right for them: Medi-Cal, subsidized insurance through Covered California, County Medical Services Program (CMSP) and other programs.

Apply online

- Use coveredca.com if you want health coverage only
- Use BenefitsCal.com if you are also interested in other benefits such as CalFresh
- Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- It takes around 40 minutes total to apply, depending on family size, how comfortable you are with computers, etc.

Apply by phone

- Call 877-410-8809 (Eureka Call Center)
- Call 800-300-1506 (Covered California)
- Hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Apply by mail

- A health care coverage packet can be mailed to you to complete and return. Call and request a packet at 1-877-410-8809.

Apply in person

Applications are accepted during business hours at:

- Eureka - 929 Koster St.
- Fortuna - 3306 Renner Drive
- McKinleyville - 1615 Heartwood Drive
- Redway - 3156 Redwood Drive
- Hoopa - 68 Orchard St.

If you need medical coverage right away, come into one of the offices if you can. Meeting face-to-face with an eligibility specialist can help you better understand the process and what documentation is needed.

If you have a paper application that you want to drop off, there are after-hours drop boxes at all locations.

Other

Many local hospitals and clinics have health care coverage applications available. Some providers also provide assistance with the application process. Talk to your provider about options.



What verifications do I need?

Changes in Medi-Cal rules have made getting coverage simpler. Income, resources and other verifications may still be required when you apply for health care coverage. Any of the items below that apply to you can be submitted with your application. A specialist will determine if verifications are needed and, if so, will send you a letter asking you to submit them within 10 days. A postage-paid envelope will be provided. You can always call us if you need more time. Remember, we need only the items that apply to you. (For example, if you aren't pregnant, we don't need proof of pregnancy).

Non-financial verifications (provide only those that apply)

- Driver's license, photo ID, resident alien card ("green card")
- Social Security and Medicare cards
- Pregnancy verification with a due date (doctor's note).

Income verifications (provide only those that apply)

- Pay stubs or tax return
- Unemployment insurance verification
- State Disability Income verifications
- Statement from friend/family about free rent and/or utilities
- Financial aid award letters
- For self-employment, tax return with Schedule C or Profit & Loss statements.

Resource verifications are needed for some programs.

Many programs for children, families and single people do not require property information. Programs for the elderly and disabled do require property verification, including:

- Current checking and savings account statements for all accounts
- Car, truck and other vehicle registrations
- Current property tax statement and proof of balance owed
- Other property, including stocks or bonds, life insurance policies, burial trust agreements, trust funds and trust deeds.

It is DHHS' policy to enroll all eligible individuals. Our goal is to confirm eligibility, not deny it. Different programs have different requirements and limitations. We can help you find out if you are eligible for services.

Don't be discouraged if you are missing a verification. If you have trouble getting proof of something, call us to discuss options.

We're here to help. Call us between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. at 1-877-410-8809, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday.

Ask your eligibility specialist about applying for CalFresh at the same time.

Call our Eureka office toll free at
1-877-410-8809.

