



What You Need to Know: D.C. Medicaid and Alliance



Who Can Get D.C. Medicaid?

Medicaid benefits are available to District residents who meet the income guidelines:

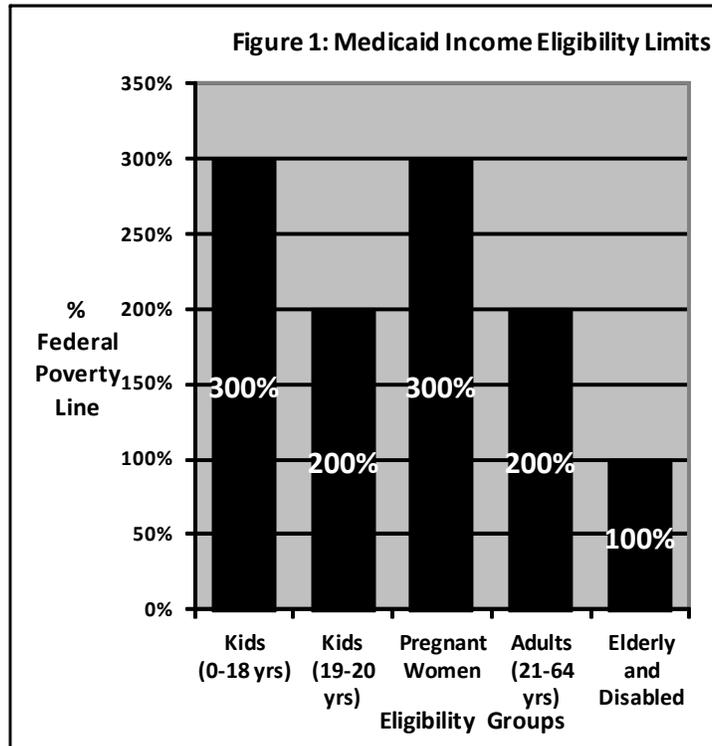
- Children (age 0-18) - income 300% FPL
- Youth (age 19-20) - income 200% FPL
- Pregnant Women - income 300% FPL
- Elderly (over 65) blind or disabled - income 100% FPL
- Adults (age 21-64) - income 200% FPL
- **Individuals with high medical cost may qualify for Medicaid by Spend Down even if their income is over the above specified amounts.**

You must be able to prove:

- You live in D.C.
- You are a U.S. citizen or an eligible immigrant
- Income

If you are elderly or disabled, you must also show your assets (belongings or savings).

- The value limit is \$4,000 for one person or \$6,000 for couples
- Some belongings are not counted, such as the house you live in. If you are not sure if you qualify, apply just in case.



Note that in D.C., Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) funds are used to expand the Medicaid program.

Figure 2: 2012 Federal Poverty Levels by Family Size

Family Size*	% Yearly/Monthly Income**		
	100%	200%	300%
1	\$11,170 \$930.83	\$22,340 \$1,861.67	\$33,510 \$2,792.50
2	\$15,130 \$1,260.83	\$30,260 \$2,521.67	\$45,390 \$3,782.50
3	\$19,090 \$1,590.83	\$38,180 \$3,181.67	\$57,270 \$4,772.50
4	\$23,050 \$1,920.83	\$46,100 \$3,841.67	\$69,150 \$5,762.50
5	\$27,010 \$2,250.83	\$54,020 \$4,501.67	\$81,030 \$6,752.50
6	\$30,970 \$2,580.83	\$61,940 \$5,161.67	\$92,910 \$7,742.50
7	\$34,930 \$2,910.83	\$69,860 \$5,821.67	\$104,790 \$8,732.50

* Pregnant women count as two people

** Child care expenses may be deducted from countable income

Who Can Get the D.C. HealthCare Alliance?

D.C. HealthCare Alliance ("Alliance") is available for low-income adults who:

- Live in DC
- Must have a face-to-face interview
- Cannot get Medicaid, Medicare or other insurance
- Have income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (See Figure 2)
- Have belongings and savings of less than \$4,000 for one person or \$6,000 for couples or families. Some belongings are not counted, such as the house you live in. If you are not sure if you qualify, apply just in case.

Neither U.S. citizenship nor qualified alien status is required to enroll in the D.C. HealthCare Alliance.

How to Apply for Medicaid or the Alliance:

1. **Fill out an application form.** You can get a form at any Economic Security Administration (ESA) center. Call 202-727-5355 to find the ESA Center that serves your area. The form is also online at <http://dhs.dc.gov> under “Public Assistance Benefits.” On page 9 of the form, there is a list of documents you must bring to show that the information you give is true.
2. **Take the form and the documents you need to an ESA Service Center.** ESA will stamp a page of the form for you to keep. This is proof that ESA got your application form.
 - If you bring all the needed documents to the Service Center, ESA will make copies and return them. The process will go faster if you have everything ready with the application.
 - If you are missing documents, ESA will give you a checklist of what you need to bring back.
 - Tell ESA if you or anyone in your family has unpaid medical bills. These *might* be paid for if you are approved.
3. **ESA has up to 45 days** to decide if you can get Medicaid or the Alliance. If they say “yes,” you will get a letter that tells you the date your health care started. This is usually the first day of the month you turned in your application.
4. **For most people, the next step is to choose a plan.** A few days after you get the letter from ESA, you will get another letter from either a health care company or from a company called “Houston Associates.” They work with DC’s Medicaid program.
 - If you get Medicaid, you will have 30 days to choose a health care plan. Until you have a plan, Medicaid will pay for doctor’s visits on a fee-for-service basis.
 - If you get the Alliance, you will be assigned to a plan, but you have the right to pick a different one if you want.

If you are in fee-for-service Medicaid, you will get a letter that explains how it works.
5. **Don’t forget to get a check-up!** It is important for both adults and children to have regular check-ups. Make sure to bring all of your health insurance cards to the appointment.

Be Sure To Include These Documents with the Application:

	Medicaid	Alliance
Income	Recent paystubs; statement showing retirement, disability, or Workers Compensation income; pension statement; or last year’s income tax papers and/or W2, etc.	Same as Medicaid.
Assets	Not necessary for pregnant women, children and caretakers of children. For elderly and disabled, bank account statements and verification of all resources/assets.	Recent bank and checking account statements, etc.
D.C. Residency	Valid D.C. driver’s license or ID card; valid lease, rental agreement, rent receipt, deed, or mortgage statement for a residence in the District; valid homeowner’s or renter’s insurance policy for a residence in D.C.; recent D.C. Property Tax bill for a D.C. residence; recent utility bill (water, gas, electric, cable, or landline telephone); pay stub with a D.C. address and D.C. withholding taxes issued in the last thirty (30) days; or D.C. voter registration card.	Same as Medicaid, or a D.C. Proof of Residency Form. Must have a face-to-face interview.
Social Security Number	Social Security card; tax or payroll documents with your SSN on it; or D.C. driver’s license with your SSN on it; etc.	Same as Medicaid, though not required.
Immigration Information	Employment Authorization card, I-94, visa, passport, or other documents from the INS.	Same as Medicaid, though not required.
Other forms of insurance	Your health insurance card if you have other health insurance.	Alliance is not available to those with other insurance.