



Medical Assistance and Pregnancy

What is Medical Assistance (MA) and CHIP-Funded MA?

Medical Assistance (MA) is Minnesota’s Medicaid program for people with low incomes. MA provides free health care to children and families, **pregnant people**, adults without children, seniors, and people who are blind or have a disability.

CHIP-Funded MA, also called MA-Pregnant, is available for **pregnant people** who can’t get regular MA because they are undocumented, only have temporary immigration status or are not citizens.

MA-Pregnant coverage can start as soon as you think you are pregnant. Coverage lasts until **12-months** after the pregnancy ends. The time after the pregnancy ends is called the postpartum period.

Note: the **postpartum period** starts on the day the pregnancy ends. It doesn’t matter if there is a birth or not.



Can I get MA?

If you are pregnant or in the postpartum period, you might be eligible for MA-Pregnant. You need to:

- be pregnant or be in the 12-month postpartum period and
- meet other MA criteria, like income level and citizenship/immigration requirements.

There’s [more information about eligibility](#) in the “MN Health Care Programs Eligibility Policy Manual” on the DHS website: <https://mn.gov/dhs>.

If you get MA under the *pregnant person basis of eligibility*, you are covered from the month of conception until the end of the 12-month postpartum period. It doesn’t matter if there are changes in your income, your family size, or renewal requirements.

Can I get MA if I’m not here legally?

Yes. If you are pregnant and undocumented, you may be able to get CHIP-Funded MA-Pregnant or Emergency Medical Assistance (EMA). If you apply for or are already getting CHIP-funded MA

for pregnant people or EMA, you do not have to give a Social Security number or state your immigration status. See our fact sheet [Emergency Medical Assistance \(EMA\)](#).

You may be eligible for CHIP-funded MA-Pregnant if:

- you are undocumented or are a noncitizen who can't get MA,
- your income is \$4,568 a month or less. This is for a household of 2 (you and your pregnancy = 2). The [income limit](#) goes up if there are more people in your household.
- you are not enrolled in other health care coverage, and
- you are a resident of Minnesota

There's [more information about eligibility](#) in the "MN Health Care Programs Eligibility Policy Manual" on the DHS website: <https://mn.gov/dhs>.

How do I apply?

If you are pregnant, or think you may be, apply for MA at www.MNSure.org. If you can't get regular MA because of your immigration status, ask at your doctor's office about working with a free navigator or another trusted person to apply. Or contact Project Care to get free help from a MnSure certified navigator at 320-253-1021 or projectcare@mylegalaid.org.

You can also apply at your county welfare office.

What if I already get MA?

If you are getting MA or CHIP-funded MA based on pregnancy, you are automatically covered for 12-months after the pregnancy ends. It is automatic, you don't have to do anything.



What's Covered?

CHIP-funded MA-Pregnant offers a wide range of MA coverage. The coverage is not limited to only pregnancy-related care. During pregnancy and the 12-month postpartum period, you are covered for things like:

- Doctor and clinic visits
- Hospital and OB/GYN services
- Dental care

- Mental health and substance use services
- Prescriptions
- Medical equipment – like breast pumps and blood pressure units

See the [MHCP Summary of Coverage, Cost Sharing and Limits](#) page for a detailed list of covered services. Go to <https://mn.gov/dhs>.

- Click on *eDocs document library* at the top right of the page
- Type 3860 in the search box

Other Benefits

If you are eligible for MA on the day you give birth, your child is considered an “auto newborn.” This means your child is automatically eligible for MA for **1 year**. Auto newborns don’t have to meet any of the MA criteria except be a Minnesota resident. They are eligible through the end of the month of their **first birthday**. You don’t need to apply for “auto newborn” coverage. But you should contact the county and report the birth of your child, so they start the coverage. If your baby is born in a hospital, ask the hospital to report the birth to the county.

There’s [more information about auto newborn eligibility](#) in the “MN Health Care Programs Eligibility Policy Manual” on the DHS website: <https://mn.gov/dhs>.



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