

ATTENTION: IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA (PA) DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES (DHS) ABOUT MEDICAL ASSISTANCE (MA)

You are receiving this letter from DHS because starting January 1, 2027, a new federal law will change the requirements for who can receive MA. To get MA, certain adults ages 19 to 64 will need to complete community engagement and work activities or indicate these rules will not apply to them such as by being pregnant, postpartum, or receiving Medicare. The following individuals in your household may be affected by the changes:

[Name Person 1]

[Name Person 2]

What are Community Engagement and Work Requirements?

The new federal rules say that certain adults must be involved in specific activities to receive MA. If these rules apply to you and you do not meet them, you will lose MA. There are some reasons why the rules do not apply to someone.

Who Does NOT Have to Meet Community Engagement and Work Requirements?

People who meet at least one of the conditions below do not need to meet community engagement and work requirements.

- People under age 26 who aged out of foster care
- Members of recognized American Indian or Alaska Native tribes
- Parents, caretakers or caregivers of children under 14
- Parents, caretakers or caregivers of an individual with disabilities
- Veterans with a total disability rating (100% rating) from the Veteran's Administration
- People who are medically frail or have special medical needs, including: Blindness or disability, disabling mental disorder, or other significant physical, intellectual or developmental disabilities
- People compliant with TANF work requirements
- People receiving SNAP benefits who are not exempt from SNAP work requirements
- People who are participating in a substance use or alcohol treatment program
- People who are incarcerated or have been incarcerated within the last 90 days
- People who are pregnant or receiving postpartum coverage through Medical Assistance
- People who received inpatient hospital care
- People who traveled outside of their community to receive medical care for themselves or a dependent in the last month

How Can You Meet Community Engagement and Work Requirements?

If you are a person who needs to meet these requirements, you can meet them by doing **at least 80 hours a month** of activities like:

- Working
- Attending an educational program at least half time
- Participating in a work or job training program
- Volunteering or completing community service
- Completing a combination of these activities for a total of 80 hours a month
or
- Having gross income of \$580 a month
- Seasonal workers can qualify if their average monthly gross income over the last 6 months was at least \$580 per month

When People Must Meet the Requirement?

This requirement affects people at two different times – at the time of a renewal of their MA and at the time of an application for MA.

Certain adults who are already receiving MA are required to complete a renewal of their MA at certain times. Effective January 1, 2027, the new federal law says that, after their next scheduled renewal, certain adults must renew their MA every 6 months instead of every 12 months. At the time of their next scheduled renewal and following renewals, these adults must meet the requirement in at least one month since their last renewal or meet one of reasons listed above (see Who Does NOT Have to Meet Community Engagement and Work Requirements).

Certain adults newly applying for MA that do not meet one of the reasons listed above (see Who Does Not Have to Meet Community Engagement and Work Requirements), must meet the requirement in the calendar month prior to the month an application was submitted.

What Do You Need to Do Now?

You **do not need to do anything today**. DHS will review your case at the next renewal and try to use the information already available to see if you meet the requirements or do not have to meet the requirements. If DHS needs more information, we will send you a letter and give you 30 days to respond. Please respond to the letter and provide requested information by the deadline in the letter.

If at the time of your next renewal after January 1, 2027, you did not meet the requirements in any month since your last renewal and do not provide information that the requirements do not apply to you, you may lose your MA benefits.

To make sure you receive important information from DHS regarding your MA, **report any changes about your address and contact information.**

How to Report Changes?

- **Online:** Visit www.dhs.pa.gov/COMPASS or use the COMPASS PA mobile app
- **By Phone:** Call 877-395-8930 or 1-215-560-7226 (Philadelphia residents)
- **Mail/In Person:** Submit to your local County Assistance Office

For More Information on the New Federal Rules

Visit www.dhs.pa.gov/federalcuts (repurposing the website, the link language will change) for more information.

You can also call XXXX

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