

H.R. 1 impacts to Apple Health

Communications Toolkit



Changes coming to Apple
Health (Medicaid) coverage



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Overview

Background

A new federal law, H.R. 1, as passed by Congress and signed into law by President Donald Trump, adds new requirements and makes changes to Apple Health (Medicaid). Many details are still being developed. The Health Care Authority (HCA) is reviewing how these changes will affect Apple Health. Most upcoming changes will occur at the time of a client's next renewal after changes are implemented.

How to use this toolkit

Use this toolkit when communicating with clients about H.R. 1, including changes to Apple Health eligibility, coverage, or benefits. This toolkit is designed for community-based organizations, navigators, providers, and other partners who assist Apple Health clients to help spread the word about these upcoming changes and understand what actions clients need to take.

Audiences

Stakeholders and individuals who assist clients can use this toolkit to guide Apple Health clients through upcoming changes to their Apple Health coverage.

These communications are designed for individuals eligible for Apple Health coverage. This includes individuals who apply for Apple Health through Washington Connection.

Important note: This toolkit will be updated as often as possible. Changes may occur as the federal government releases guidance on how to address H.R. 1 changes.

Upcoming Apple Health changes

This toolkit divides messaging based on the following H.R. 1 changes:

Change	Summary	Start date
Lawfully present noncitizen changes	Changes to eligibility for refugees, asylees, and other noncitizen adults.	October 1, 2026
Work requirements	To remain eligible, people enrolled in Apple Health for Adults will be required to work, train, or do community engagement 80 hours per month (with some exceptions).	January 1, 2027
Six-month renewals	People enrolled in Apple Health for Adults will be required to renew their coverage every six months instead of twelve months.	January 1, 2027
Retroactive coverage	Retroactive coverage will be shortened from three months to one month for Apple Health for Adults and shortened to two months for all other Apple Health programs.	January 1, 2027

Communications

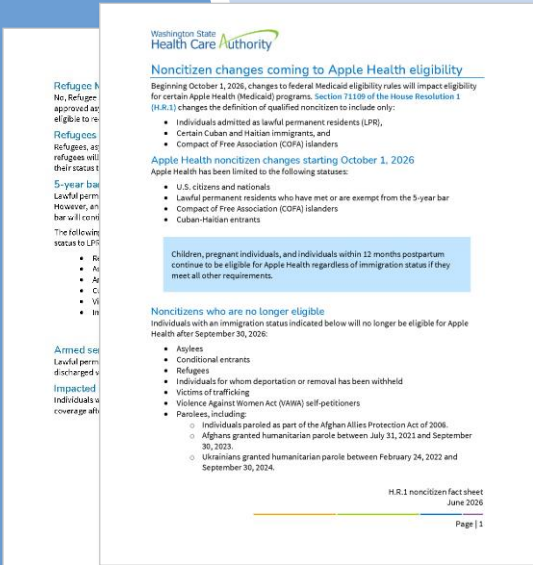
All audiences

Key messages

- Keep your information up to date! Make sure your phone number, email, and mailing address are correct to get important updates about your Apple Health coverage. Learn how to update your information at hca.wa.gov/report-a-change.
- If you are no longer eligible for Apple Health (Medicaid), other health coverage options are available. During open enrollment (November 1 - December 31) anyone can apply for health insurance through [Washington Healthplanfinder™](#).
 - People no longer eligible for Apple Health may apply for a qualified health plan (QHP) and qualified dental plans during a special enrollment period outside of open enrollment. Life events can include job loss, birth, adoption, marriage and more. To apply during special enrollment, visit [Washington Healthplanfinder™](#) or call Washington Healthplanfinder Customer Support Center at 1-855-923-4633.

Noncitizen coverage

Fact sheet



View the [H.R. 1 noncitizens fact sheet](#) for details on Apple Health changes for noncitizens.

This fact sheet provides guidance on Apple Health eligibility for noncitizens, other options for health coverage, and where to go for assistance.

[View online](#)

Key messages

- Beginning October 1, 2026, individuals with certain immigration statuses may no longer be eligible for Apple Health (Medicaid). This includes:
 - Asylees
 - Conditional entrants
 - Refugees
 - Individuals for whom deportation or removal has been withheld
 - Victims of trafficking
 - Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) self-petitioners
 - Parolees

For more information, view the [fact sheet](#).

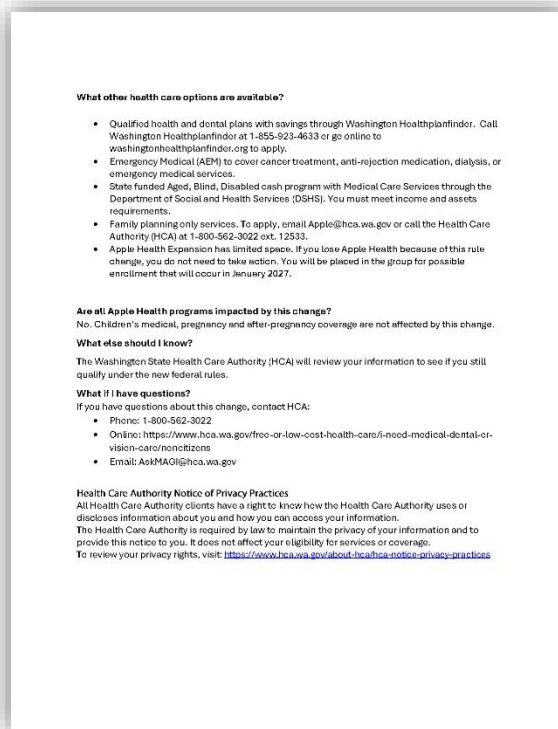
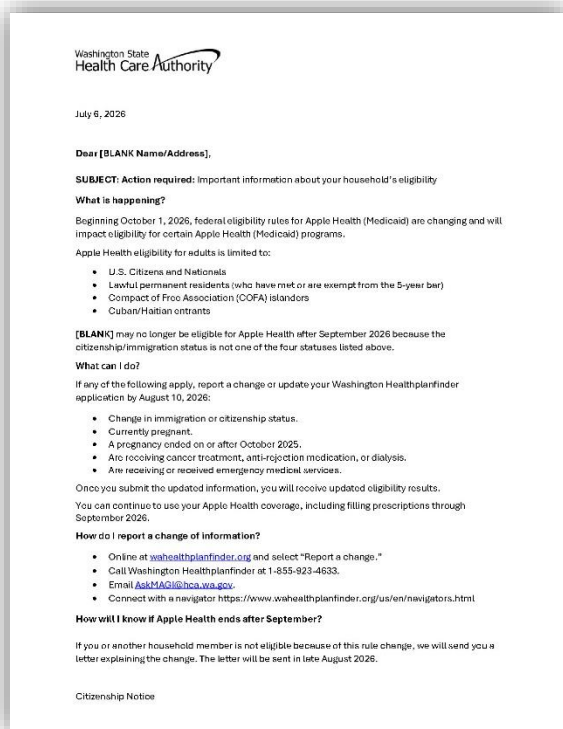
- You may be eligible for other Apple Health (Medicaid) coverage. Learn more at hca.wa.gov/apple-health-non-citizens.
- If you are no longer eligible for Apple Health (Medicaid), other health coverage options are available. All Washingtonians, regardless of immigration status, can shop for and buy qualified health and dental plans through [Washington Healthplanfinder](#). Learn more about [immigrant health care](#) and other [cost saving options](#) and how to apply during a [special enrollment period](#).

Exemptions

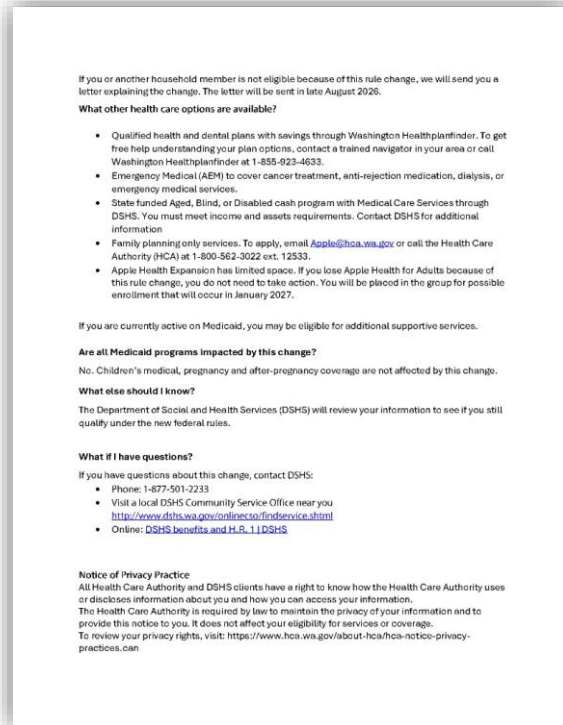
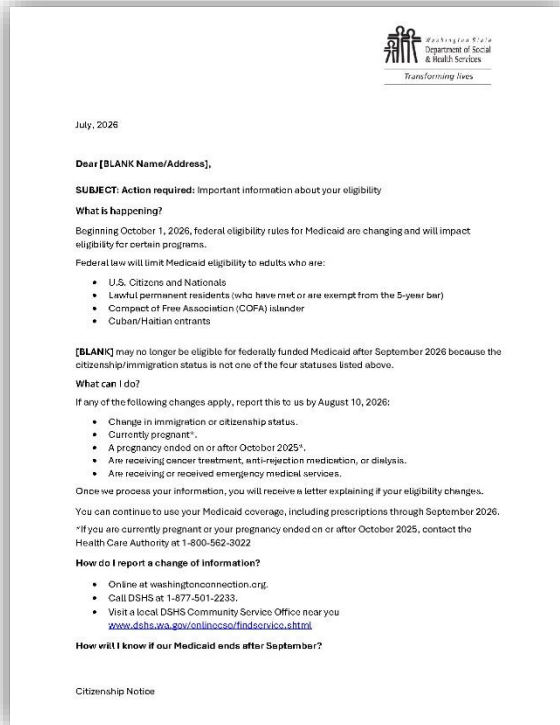
- Children, pregnant individuals, and individuals within 12 months postpartum continue to be eligible for Apple Health regardless of immigration status if they meet all other requirements.

Client letters

Letter sent to noncitizen MAGI clients notifying about potential changes to their Apple Health eligibility.



Letter sent to noncitizen non-MAGI clients notifying about potential changes to their Apple Health eligibility.



Work requirements and six-month renewals

Fact sheet

Washington State Health Care Authority

Work requirements and renewal changes coming to Apple Health for Adults

American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) individuals are excluded from both work requirements and the shortened 6-month certification periods.

House Resolution One (H.R. 1) will bring many changes to Apple Health (Medicaid) eligibility. Beginning January 1, 2027, most individuals applying for or renewing Apple Health for Adults will:

- Need to meet new federal Medicaid work requirements or meet the criteria for an exemption.
- Require 6-month certification periods (previously one year).

Apple Health for Adults

Starting January 1, 2027, adults who qualify for Apple Health for Adults must meet work requirements (also called community engagement) unless they meet an exemption. To be eligible for Apple Health for Adults per WAC 182-509-0235, you must meet the following:

- Age: 19-64 without Medicare.
- Washington state resident.
- Income limits: Under 138% federal poverty level (FPL).
- Citizenship and immigration requirements: Must meet requirements per WAC 182-509-0235.

Changes to citizenship and immigration requirements begin October 2026. See the Changes coming to Apple Health webpage for more information.

Work requirements only apply to Apple Health for Adults as defined above. They do not apply to any other Apple Health program, including children, pregnancy services, or long-term care services.

Work Requirements and 6-month renewals fact sheet
June 2026
Page 1

View the [H.R. 1 work requirements fact sheet](#) for details on work requirements and renewal changes to Apple Health for Adults.

This fact sheet provides guidance on work requirement criteria, details on exemptions, and coverage period changes.

[View online](#)

Key messages

- Beginning January 1, 2027, adults who qualify for Apple Health for Adults must renew their coverage every six months (previously one year) and meet work requirements (also called community engagement) unless they meet an exemption. [Read the fact sheet](#) to learn more.
- Work requirements or an exemption must be met in the month before applying, or in any of the six months before renewing coverage. [Read the fact sheet](#) to learn more.
- Individuals enrolled in Apple Health for Adults coverage will need to renew their coverage every six months beginning with their first renewal in 2027. Learn how to renew your coverage by visiting hca.wa.gov/apply-or-renew-coverage.

Exemptions

- American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) individuals are excluded from both work requirements and the shortened 6-month renewal periods.
- Work requirements only apply to Apple Health for Adults. They do not apply to any other Apple Health program, including children, pregnancy services, or long term care services.
- Certain individuals eligible for Apple Health for Adults are exempt from work requirements. [Read the fact sheet](#) to see the full list of exempt individuals.

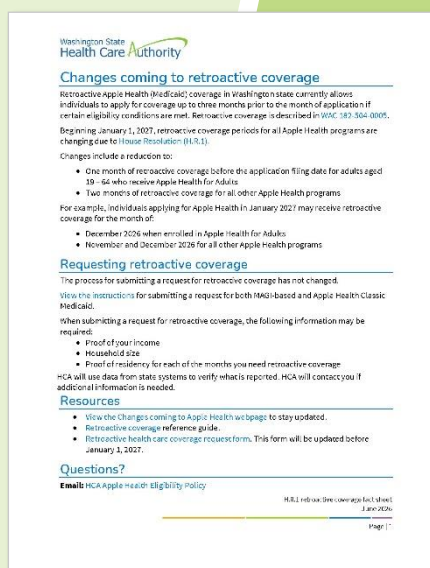
Retroactive coverage

Fact sheet

View the [H.R. 1 retroactive coverage fact sheet](#) for details on retroactive changes to Apple Health.

This fact sheet provides guidance on retroactive coverage changes, information on how to request retroactive coverage, and resources to assist clients manage their coverage.

[View online](#)



Key messages

- Beginning January 1, 2027, retroactive coverage periods for all Apple Health programs are changing. The process for requesting retroactive coverage remains unchanged. [View instructions](#) to apply for retroactive coverage. [Read the fact sheet](#) to learn more about this change.
 - Individuals aged 19 – 64 may receive retroactive coverage under Apple Health for Adults one month before their application filing date.
 - Individuals enrolling in any other Apple Health program may receive retroactive coverage two months before their application filing date. This includes individuals who apply for Apple Health through Washington Connection.

Exemptions

- Changes to retroactive coverage periods apply to all Apple Health programs. There are no exemptions to this change.

Branding and language guidance

Referencing Apple Health (Medicaid)

When referencing Washington Medicaid programs in external materials, use “Washington Apple Health (Medicaid)” or “Apple Health (Medicaid)” in the first instance followed by “Apple Health” throughout. This would apply to fact sheets, posters, social media posts, videos, SWAG items, etc.

The names of specific Apple Health programs do not include (Medicaid)

Examples:

- Apple Health for Adults **Avoid:** Apple Health (Medicaid) for Adults
- Apple Health for Kids **Avoid:** Apple Health (Medicaid) for Kids

Using “H.R. 1” in your materials

When communicating to a client audience about H.R. 1 changes, we recommend saying “Apple Health (Medicaid) changes” or “Apple Health changes” as this would best align with HCA client-oriented materials. Avoid using “H.R. 1 changes” or “House Resolution One (H.R. 1) changes” in client-specific materials.

Apple Health logo

Use the existing Apple Health logo and variations to best align with HCA materials and maintain familiarity of the program across materials. Do not use or create logos that differ from the existing Apple Health logo provided when communicating Apple Health.



Standard Apple Health logo



For use on darker backgrounds

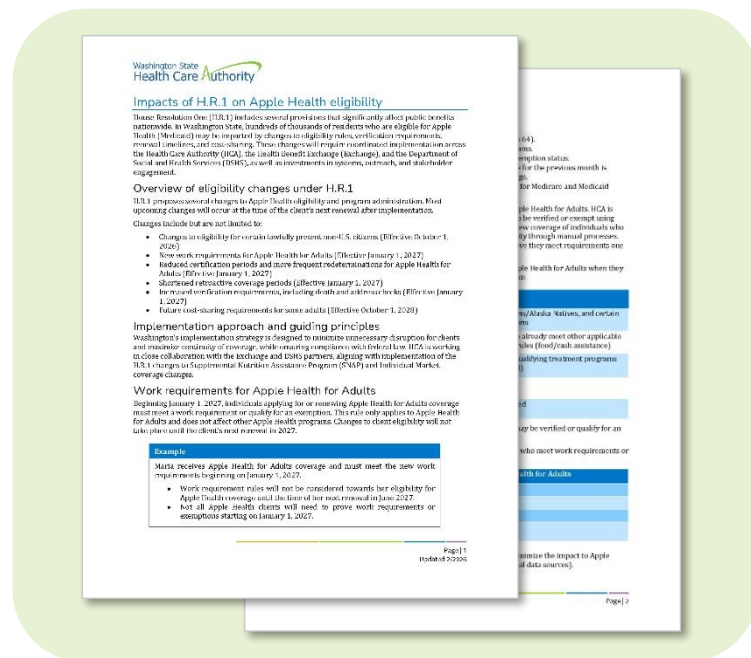


Black and white printing

Contact ahcommunications@hca.wa.gov to request a copy of the Apple Health logo in your materials.

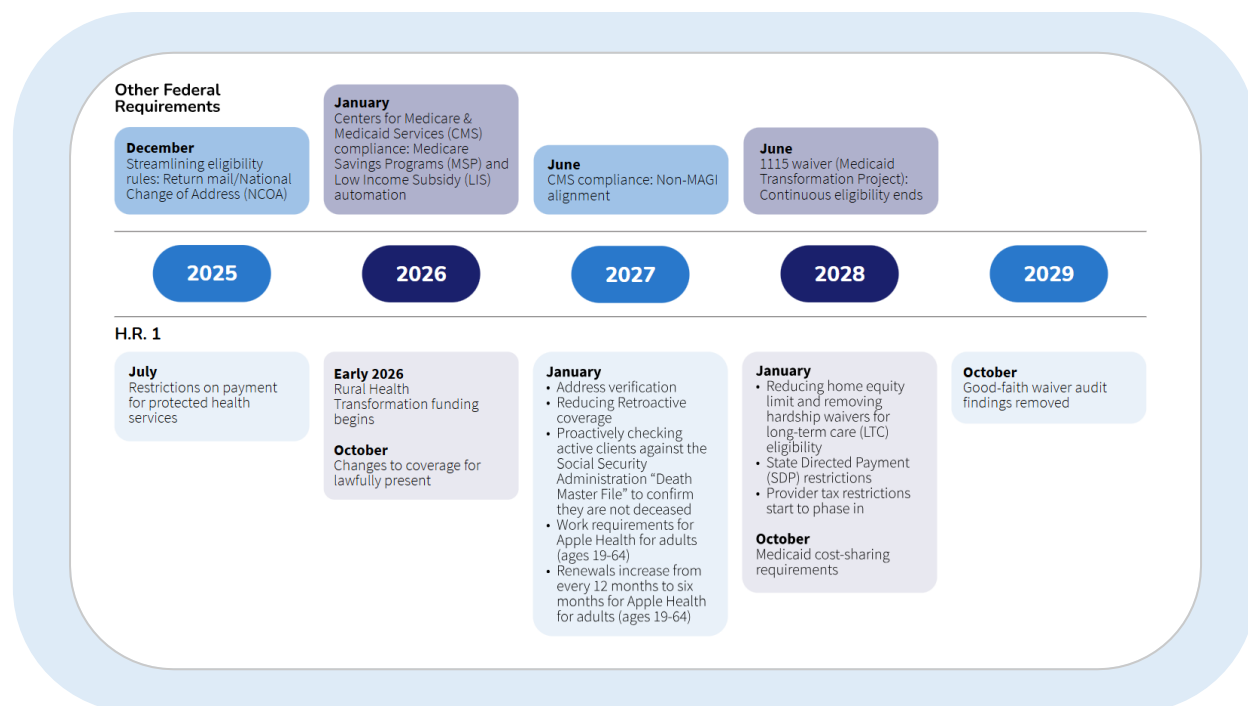
Resources

Partners and stakeholders



View the **Impacts of H.R. 1 on Apple Health eligibility** fact sheet for a brief overview of upcoming changes.

View the implementation timeline on the **H.R. 1 stakeholder webpage** for a quick summary of upcoming changes and dates.

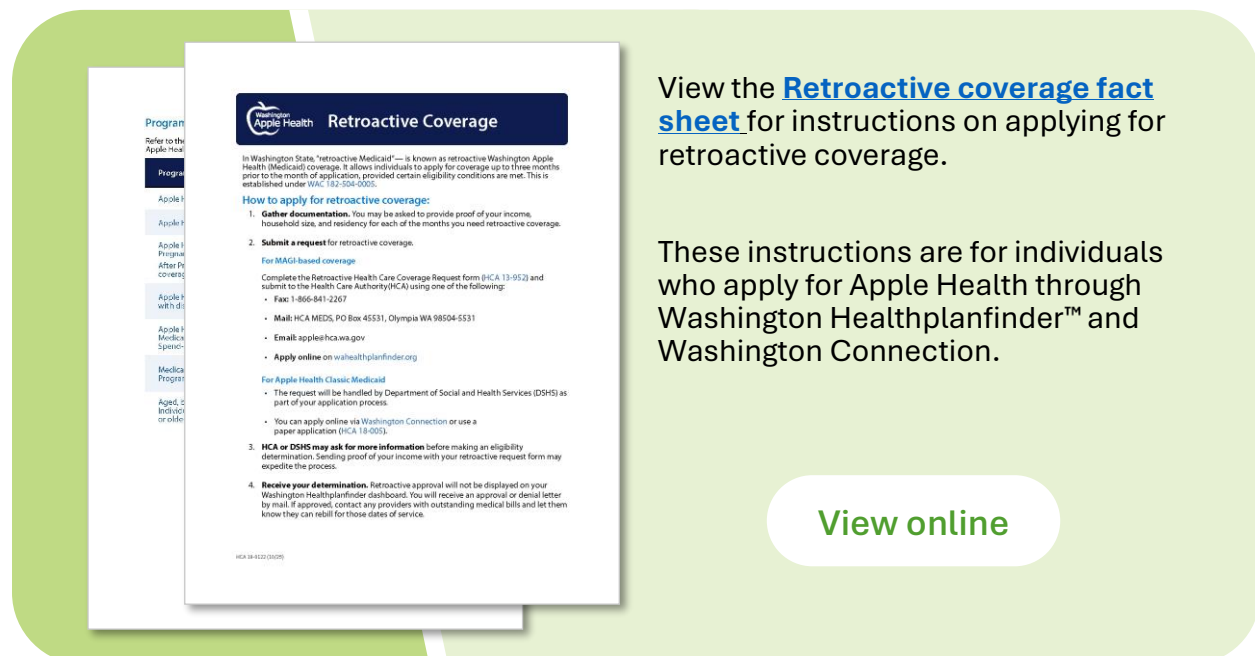
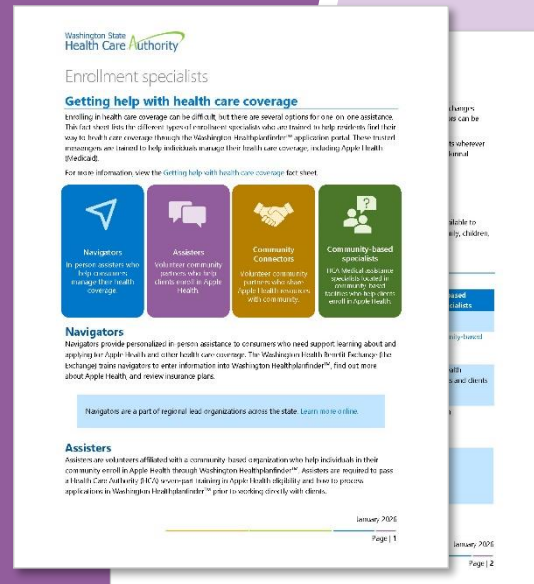


Fact sheets

View the **Enrollment specialists fact sheet** to learn different ways clients can get help.

This fact sheet highlights the different types of enrollment specialists who assist individuals in accessing health care coverage through Washington Healthplanfinder™.

View online



View the **Retroactive coverage fact sheet** for instructions on applying for retroactive coverage.

These instructions are for individuals who apply for Apple Health through Washington Healthplanfinder™ and Washington Connection.

View online

Social media toolkit

View the [H.R. 1 social media toolkit](#) for social media messaging and graphics to increase public awareness of the changes coming to Apple Health (Medicaid).

Washington State Health Care Authority
June 29 at 4:00 PM

You may have heard about changes coming to Medicaid, but nothing has changed yet. Not every Apple Health (Medicaid) member will be impacted.

Right now, you can still sign up for an Apple Health plan or renew your coverage. Learn more at hca.wa.gov/hr1-changes

HAVE YOU HEARD?

Changes to Apple Health are coming!



Washington Apple Health

hca.wa.gov/hr1-changes

Washington State Health Care Authority
June 29 at 4:00 PM

Puede ser que haya escuchado sobre los cambios que vienen de Medicaid, pero todavía no ha cambiado nada. No todos los miembros de Apple Health (Medicaid) se verán afectados.

En este momento, aún puedes inscribirte en un plan de salud de Apple Health o renovar tu cobertura. Aprende más en hca.wa.gov/hr1-changes

VIENEN CAMBIOS EN MEDICAID

Puedes inscribirte en un plan de salud de Apple Health o renovar tu cobertura



Washington Apple Health

hca.wa.gov/hr1-changes

Webinars

H.R. 1 Impacts webinar series

HCA is hosting a series of informational stakeholder webinars to present about H.R. 1 changes. Dates for upcoming webinars, including recordings and presentation materials of past webinars can be viewed on HCA's [Webinars, video, and presentations webpage](#).

Webinar information will also be shared via email updates.

Webinars, video, and presentations

Health Care Authority and the Health Benefit Exchange provide educational webinars, videos and presentations sharing information about Washington Apple Health (Medicaid), Apple Health Expansion, COFA Islander Health Care, and Washington Healthplanfinder.

Webinars

2026

H.R. 1 Impacts series

To learn more about H.R. 1 and its impact on Apple Health, join us for the following stakeholder webinars.

- Session 1 | [View the webinar](#) | [Presentation slides](#) | [Session 1 webinar FAQ](#)
- Session 2 | [View the webinar](#) | [Presentation slides](#)
- Session 3 | September 3 at 10 a.m.
- Session 4 | December 3 at 10 a.m.

Stay informed

[Sign up for email updates](#) and select the “Apple Health (Medicaid) programs and eligibility - general information and updates” topic. To ask H.R.1 specific questions, log in to the Health Care Authority support portal, select H.R.1 policy questions under the Apple Health policy tile.

Webpages

View the [H.R. 1 client webpage](#).

- To save space, use the short URL hca.wa.gov/hr1-changes.

View the [H.R. 1 stakeholder webpage](#).

Community leaders and volunteers

HCA is looking for volunteers and representatives across the state from community organizations, schools, food banks, churches, and individual community leaders to help Apple Health clients get the information they need to maintain their coverage.

To support this effort, we encourage you to become an Apple Health Community Connector to help assist clients with applying for and renewing their coverage. Visit the [Supporting clients with changes to Apple Health](#) webpage for H.R. 1 guidance and training resources.

Contact

Partners and stakeholders

- Email: hcaaheligibilitypolicy@hca.wa.gov

Apple Health clients age 19 to 64

- Email: askmedicaid@hca.wa.gov
- Phone: 1-800-562-3022

Apple Health clients age 65 and older

- Online: washingtonconnection.org
- Phone: 1-877-501-2233

Washington Healthplanfinder

- Online: wahealthplanfinder.org
- Phone: 1-855-923-4633

