5 Things to Know About HR 1 Changes to Medicaid

1 Changes to Eligible Immigration Statuses

Eligible for Medicaid starting October 1, 2026

- Lawfully Permanent Residents (Green Card Holders)
- Cuban/Haitian Entrants
- People residing in the US under COFA
- Lawfully residing children and pregnant adults

This will affect:

- Refugees and Asylees
- Humanitarian Parolees
- Survivors of trafficking or domestic violence

2 Changes to Public Charge

Medicaid will count towards the Public Charge test

- Medicaid and CHIP benefits received on or after September 18, 2026 will count in the public charge test

Public charge is a test used by immigration officials to decide whether someone who is applying for a green card or visa will likely become primarily dependent of the government for support

3 Community Engagement (CE) Requirement

Starting January 1, 2027, adults applying for or enrolled in Medicaid must show they are meeting the 80 hours per month CE requirements (also known as the work requirement)

- Applied to non-pregnant adults ages 18-64 who are eligible for or enrolled in Adult Expansion or Targeted Adult Medicaid

Qualifying CE activities (activites can be combined to meet requirement)

- Working or training for a job
- Going to school at least half time
- Volunteering or community service
- Earning at least 80x the federal hourly minimum wage per month

Certain adults are excluded from the CE requirement

4 6 Month Eligibility Reviews

Starting January 1, 2027,

- Reviews will take place every 6 months for adults on Adult Expansion Medicaid and Targeted Adult Medicaid
- Members in other non-expansion, non-TAM programs and American Indian/Alaska Native are not affected

5 Reduced Retroactive Coverage

Starting January 1, 2027,

- 1 month prior to application for Adult Expansion Medicaid and Targeted Adult Medicaid
- 2 months prior to the application for other programs