

# Medicaid Expansion in Nebraska FAQs

Updated November 2023



## BASICS

### What are the age and income requirements for Medicaid expansion?

A person must be between the ages of 19-64 with income of 138% or less of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) to be eligible for Medicaid expansion, also known as Heritage Health Adult. The amount of income a person can have and be eligible depends on the size of the household. For a household of 1 in 2023, it is about \$1,676.70 or less a month. For a household of 3 in 2023, it is about \$2,858.90 or less a month.

### How do I apply for Medicaid?

You can apply online at [ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov](https://ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov), over the phone by calling (855) 632-7633, by paper application, or by visiting a local Department of Health and Human Services office.

### If I need help filling out a Medicaid application, where do I go?

Enrollment assisters provide free, local enrollment assistance to help with questions and assist with Medicaid applications. You can find a list of enrollment assisters at [Nebraska Appleseed's website](https://www.appleseed.org/central-services/enrollment-assisters).

### Where do I go for more information about Medicaid expansion?

Nebraska Appleseed's [webpage dedicated to Medicaid expansion](#) provides basic expansion information. You can also reach out to [Nebraska Appleseed's Community Assistance Line](#). The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) also has a dedicated [Medicaid expansion page](#) that provides information and includes items such as a fact sheet, flyer, and frequently asked questions.

### Does Medicaid expansion have an asset test?

No. While some categories of Medicaid have what is known as an asset or resource test to determine whether someone is eligible for Medicaid, the Medicaid expansion category does not have that type of test.

### Are people with children eligible for Medicaid expansion?

Yes. Under traditional Medicaid, parents that make 63% FPL or less are eligible under the parent/caretaker Medicaid category. Medicaid expansion will now cover parents with incomes between 64-138% FPL. Childless adults with incomes of 138% FPL or less are also eligible under expansion.

### Could college students or college-aged young adults be eligible?

Yes. If they meet the eligibility criteria, including the age and income requirements, college students or college-aged young adults are eligible for Medicaid expansion.

### What are the immigration status requirements for expansion?

The immigration status requirements for Medicaid expansion are the same as the immigration status requirements for other categories of Medicaid.



## What benefits do Medicaid expansion enrollees receive?

As of October 1, 2021, Medicaid expansion enrollees receive access to all Nebraska Medicaid benefits, including dental, vision, and over-the-counter drug coverage. Before October 1, 2021, Medicaid expansion enrollees had either Prime or Basic coverage, and individuals with Basic coverage were denied certain benefits. DHHS has since ended the tiered benefit system and has stated that all Medicaid expansion enrollees have access to the same benefits.

## What is the waiver and requirements?

DHHS was planning to implement what is known as a Section 1115 waiver in order to impose work and wellness requirements on people with Medicaid expansion coverage. However, DHHS [announced](#) in June 2021 that it is no longer pursuing the wellness and work requirements for the expansion group, and Medicaid expansion enrollees will not have to meet those requirements to access benefits.

# OTHER COVERAGE AND MEDICAID EXPANSION

## Are people with Medicare eligible for Medicaid expansion?

If you are eligible for Medicare part A or B, you are not eligible for Medicaid expansion.<sup>1</sup>

## If I currently have health insurance coverage, could I be eligible for Medicaid expansion?

Yes. Depending on the type of coverage, you could be eligible for Medicaid expansion regardless of whether you have other health insurance coverage, including Marketplace coverage, private coverage, or employer-based coverage. However, if you are eligible for Medicaid expansion, you generally cannot receive Marketplace tax credits.

## DISCLAIMER

The information provided on this FAQ does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal advice; instead, all information and content are for general informational purposes only.

## ENDNOTE

1.477 Nebraska Administrative Code § 29-002.02(C).

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