

HEAD START AND EARLY HEAD START HEALTH INSURANCE QUESTIONS: MEDICAID AND ME

Q: My child does not have Medicaid; what do I need to do?

A: **Your child may qualify for Medicaid. Contact your state's Medicaid office or ask your Head Start or Early Head Start for help in finding the right person to contact.** You can also call 1-877-KIDS-NOW (1-877-543-7669) to be directly connected to your state's programs. Staff can help you determine whether your children qualify and help you enroll them.

Q: My child and I already have Medicaid; do I need to do anything else?

A: No. **If you are happy with your health insurance, you don't have to do anything!**

Q: **My child has Medicaid, but we as parents don't.** Can we apply for coverage?

A: The rules for Medicaid eligibility are different for each state. Most states offer coverage for adults with children below a certain income level, as well as pregnant women, some seniors, and people with disabilities. **Contact your state's Medicaid office to see if you qualify.** You can also talk to your Head Start or Early Head Start program for help in finding the right person to contact.

Under the health care law, Medicaid eligibility has expanded in many states. Many more Head Start family members—including parents, older siblings, and grandparents under age 65—may qualify for coverage. Even if you were told you didn't qualify for Medicaid in the past, you may qualify under the Affordable Care Act rules.

Fill out an application at Healthcare.gov or www.CuidadoDeSalud.gov, or call (toll-free) 1-800-318-2596 starting Nov. 1, 2016 **to find out if you'll qualify in 2017.** English- and Spanish-speaking customer service representatives are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Interpreters in 150 languages are also available. To speak with an interpreter, say **"Agent" or press "0."** **Once an agent is on the line, say the name of the language you need.**

Q: How can I apply?

A: You can apply online, by phone, or by mail. Visit Healthcare.gov or CuidadoDeSalud.gov or call (toll-free) 1-800-318-2596 with questions. TTY users should call 1-855-889-4325. English- and Spanish-speaking customer service representatives are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Interpreters in 150 languages are also available. To speak with an interpreter, say **"Agent" or press "0."** **Once an agent is on the line, say the name of the language you need.**

Q: In addition to income, what are the other requirements?

A: To be eligible for health coverage, you must be a U.S. citizen or a non-citizen who is lawfully present in the U.S. for the entire period for which enrollment is sought.

Q: When will Medicaid coverage start for newly eligible parents, older siblings, and grandparents under age 65?

A: The rules for Medicaid eligibility are different for each state.

Visit Healthcare.gov or CuidadoDeSalud.gov or call (toll-free) 1-800-318-2596 for more details. TTY users should call 1-855-889-4325.