Question	Answer
Medicaid Eligibility Changes	
How has NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid coverage changed for non-citizens?	Due to a new federal law, signed into law by President Trump, some non-citizens no longer qualify for NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid coverage as of October 1, 2026. However, many non-citizens remain eligible. These include: • Children under 19, regardless of their immigration status • Lawfully present pregnant people • Lawfully present non-citizens who are under the age of 21 • Certain green card holders • Cuban/Haitian Entrants • Compacts of Free Association (COFA) migrants, which includes Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau You may have heard that federal changes could affect Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). In New Jersey, all children under 19, lawfully present people aged 19 and 20, and lawfully present pregnant people will continue to qualify for NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid. These groups are protected under separate federal and state laws.
What exactly changed in the law?	A new federal law, H.R.1 (also known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act or OBBBA), which was passed on July 4, 2025, changed the rules for who can get Medicaid. The law limits the immigration statuses that qualify for NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid. This means that some people who qualified in the past may no longer qualify as of October 1, 2026.

What non-citizen statuses no longer qualify for NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid coverage?	Non-citizens with the following immigration statuses **no longer qualify** for Medicaid coverage as of October 1, 2026:
	• Non-citizens in the following groups who have **not** adjusted to Lawful Permanent Resident status
	  ○ Victims of domestic violence, applying under the U.S. under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
	  ○ Temporary humanitarian parolees (those paroled into the U.S. for at least one year)
	  ○ Refugees
	  ○ Asylees
	  ○ Victims of trafficking and their spouse, child, sibling, or parents
	  ○ Lawfully residing veterans/active-duty service members and certain family members
	  ○ Afghan Nationals granted parole between July 31, 2021 and September 30, 2023

	○ Individuals who were paroled into the U.S. between February 24, 2022 and September 30, 2024 under the Ukrainian Humanitarian Parole (UHP) program ○ People whose deportation is being withheld
What non-citizen NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid members still qualify? (i.e., which statuses)	Non-citizens with the following immigration statuses **still qualify** for coverage as of October 1, 2026: • Lawful Permanent Resident (green card holder) of at least 5 years calculated from date of grant of qualifying immigration status • Non-citizens that are in one of the following groups and who have adjusted to Lawful Permanent Resident, regardless of date of adjustment ○ Refugees ○ Asylees ○ Victims of trafficking and their spouse, child, sibling, or parents ○ Lawfully residing veterans/active-duty service members and certain family members ○ Amerasian immigrants ○ Iraqi and Afghani grantees of Special Immigrant Visas (SIV) or SI/SQ Parolees ○ Afghan Nationals granted parole between July 31, 2021 and September 30, 2023 ○ Individuals who were paroled into the U.S. between February 24, 2022 and September 30, 2024 under the Ukrainian Humanitarian Parole (UHP) program ○ People whose deportation is being withheld • Cuban/Haitian Entrants • Compacts of Free Association (COFA) migrants, which includes Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau • Lawfully present pregnant people • Lawfully present non-citizens who are under the age of 21 • Children under 19, regardless of their immigration status
What is lawfully present defined as?	Please see this link for the definition of lawfully present: https://njfamilycare.dhs.state.nj.us/imm_info.aspx
Do children and pregnant people still qualify for NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid coverage?	Yes. In New Jersey, the following groups continue to qualify for NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid: • Lawfully present pregnant people • Lawfully present non-citizens who are under the age of 21 • Children under 19, regardless of their immigration status These groups are protected under separate federal and State laws. Their coverage will continue as long as they meet income and other eligibility requirements.

If you don't have a qualifying immigration status, do health-related exemptions keep you from losing coverage?	Health-related exemptions are for community engagement/work requirements only. They do not apply to federal changes to non-citizen eligibility.
Who can tell me if I still qualify for coverage?	Only NJ FamilyCare can verify your submitted documents and determine if you qualify for coverage. No other organization can tell you if you qualify for coverage, though they can help you decide what documents to submit.
Guidance for New Applicants / Renewals	
I am a new applicant. What do I need to know about these rules?	As of October 1, 2026, the eligibility rules for NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid have changed. Your application will be reviewed based on these new rules. The changes to eligibility are outlined in the "Medicaid Eligibility Changes" section of this document.
I am renewing my coverage. What do I need to know about these rules?	As of October 1, 2026, the eligibility rules for NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid have changed. Your renewal will be reviewed based on these new rules. The changes to eligibility are outlined in the "Medicaid Eligibility Changes" section of this document.
Can I reapply for Medicaid in the future if my immigration status or circumstances change? How soon can I reapply?	Yes, you can reapply if your immigration status or circumstances change. We encourage you to reapply if you think these changes mean you will now qualify under the new rules. **There is no waiting period to reapply.**
What are the eligible income levels to qualify for NJ FamilyCare?	Please visit this link to see an overview of who is eligible for NJ FamilyCare: https://njfamilycare.dhs.state.nj.us/who_eligbl.aspx
Guidance for Non-citizen Disenrollment Process	
I got a letter telling me to submit documents but I forgot to send them in. What should I do?	**You still have time to submit documents to prove you qualify for NJ FamilyCare.** Follow the instructions in the letter you received from NJ FamilyCare on how to send in your documents. If you submit them by the December 31, 2026 deadline and are found eligible, your coverage will be restarted back to October 1, 2026. If you send in your documents by December 31, 2026, you won't need to re-apply. NJ FamilyCare can see if you still qualify for coverage. If information is not sent to NJ FamilyCare by December 31, 2026 and you want health care coverage, you will have to re-apply. Please note that even if you qualify at that time, you could have a gap in your coverage.

	See the “Guidance for Non-citizen Disenrollment Documents” section for more information on the document submission process.
I got a letter telling me to submit documents. I submitted documents **before** September 30, 2026 but haven’t heard back. Am I still covered? What should I do?	If you submitted documents before September 30, 2026 and have not heard back, NJ FamilyCare may still be working on your verification. Look for a letter titled “Non-citizen Reasonable Opportunity Letter” to let you know if your coverage was extended. You do not need to do anything else at this time. You will receive a letter in the mail once a decision is made.
I got a letter telling me to submit documents. I submitted documents **after** September 30, 2026 but haven’t heard back. Am I still covered? What should I do?	If you submitted documents after September 30, 2026, NJ FamilyCare will process them as quickly as they can. You are not covered by NJ FamilyCare while they process your documents. It may take 30 or more days for you to hear your result. You do not need to do anything else at this time. You will receive a letter in the mail once a decision is made.
I received a letter telling me I was terminated. When did I lose my coverage?	If your coverage was terminated due to the non-citizen eligibility federal changes, this determination was effective as of September 30, 2026.
I received a letter telling me I am eligible. Is there anything else I need to do?	If you received an eligible decision, there are no next steps for you at this time. Your coverage is active and ready to be used.
I received a letter telling me my coverage was extended because NJ FamilyCare hasn’t finished processing my documents. Is there anything I need to do?	There are no next steps for you at this time. You will receive a letter in the mail once a decision is made.
What if I received both an initial outreach letter and a notice confirming I still qualify without submitting any documents?	If you received both a initial outreach letter and a notice confirming you still qualify, **you remain eligible for coverage under the new federal rules and no additional action is needed at this time.** This is true even if you have not sent in any documents. This can happen because NJ FamilyCare continues reviewing cases after sending termination letters. In other words, your eligibility could not be confirmed when NJ FamilyCare had sent initial termination letters, but since then, NJ FamilyCare was able to confirm you still qualify.
Guidance for Non-citizen Disenrollment Documents	
Where should I send my documents?	If you received a letter titled “Non-citizen Initial Letter”, requesting that you submit documents to prove your immigration status, please send them in

	using one of the three options below. This process is not for your standard renewal. If you received a renewal packet, you should follow the instructions in the renewal packet. There are a few ways to get your documents to NJ FamilyCare: • **Online (preferred option):** Upload to the HMS secure site: www.VerifyOS.com. You must enter your reference number and Date of Birth to log into the portal. You can find your reference number in the upper-right hand corner of the notice mailed to you. • **Fax to HMS:** Fax documents directly to HMS at +1 877-223-8478 • **Mail to HMS:** The address to mail copies of your documents is PO Box 165308, Irving, TX 75016-9923. Please allow 3-5 business days for receipt. You should send in the response form that came with your letter and copies of any documents that prove your immigration status. If you have any questions about submitting documents, call the HMS hotline at +1 833-635-7060 (TTY: 711).
Will the portal be updated to accept larger sized documents?	No, the portal upload functionality is not being updated. If you have an issue with the upload feature, please fax or mail in your documents.
Do I have to pay to submit my documents?	NJ FamilyCare will never charge you to submit your documents. You do not have to pay anyone to help you. For free assistance, please call the HMS hotline at +1 833-635-7060 (TTY: 711).
Can someone help me submit my documents?	Call the HMS hotline at +1 833-635-7060 (TTY: 711) for guidance on how to submit documents.
Can a lawyer, advocate, or family member call or submit documents on my behalf?	Yes. You can have a trusted person, such as a family member, lawyer, or community advocate, help you respond to this letter. They can call with you or help you gather and submit your immigration documents. If the member or head of household is not present to speak on your behalf, they will need to file a release form or a Designation of Authorized Representative form. You can find the Designation of Authorized Representative by visiting https://nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/documents/news/NJ_Medicaid_Designation_of_Authorized_Representative.pdf
What documents should I provide?	See the “Immigration Document Guide” section of the Non-citizen Eligibility webpage for the list of acceptable documents to send for each qualifying immigrant category. Find the Non-citizen Eligibility webpage at https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/obbba/noncitizen.shtml
Should I send in original documents or copies?	You should only send copies of your documents. Do not send in originals. If you have any questions about submitting documents, you should call the HMS hotline at +1 833-635-7060 (TTY: 711).

What should I do if my immigration document is expired?	Please submit your documents regardless of expiration date. NJ FamilyCare may still be able to use the information in the documents to verify your status. If the documents are not enough, you will be sent another notice informing you that more information is needed.
What should I do if my immigration document is lost or unavailable?	If your document is lost, contact Legal Services of New Jersey at +1 833-576-5776 (TTY: 711) right away for help. You may need to get another copy of the document to send in.
What is HMS?	HMS is a vendor, based in Texas, that NJ FamilyCare has partnered with to help with this effort. HMS is handling the process of collecting documents, sending notices, and answering questions from people who receive these letters. If you have any questions about whether a letter was sent to you or how to submit documents, call the HMS hotline at +1 833-635-7060 (TTY: 711).
Will my information be shared with immigration authorities?	NJ FamilyCare uses your information only to verify if you have a qualifying status for coverage. However, NJ FamilyCare must submit immigration documents to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security as part of the required verification process. NJ FamilyCare is also legally required to share member information with the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). In 2025, CMS agreed to share the personal information of Medicaid members with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials for immigration enforcement purposes. NJ FamilyCare does not have any control over this process. They are also unable to say what, if any, member information has been shared with ICE at this time.
Guidance for Fair Hearing Process	
What can I do if I disagree with the termination of my coverage?	You can request a fair hearing to appeal the decision. Information about how to request a fair hearing will be included in your notice of termination. You will need to follow the instructions to make that request. You can request a fair hearing if you lost coverage and you think the decision was **a mistake or error**. Fair hearings should be requested if you believe that you have an immigration status that still qualifies for coverage.
When can I request a fair hearing?	Fair hearings must be requested within 30 days from the date of the letter marked “FINAL NOTICE” on the top-right. If you have more proof that you have an immigration status that would qualify for coverage, you should submit that information to HMS as soon as possible. You can submit more proof even after your coverage has ended. For help on how to submit more information, call the HMS hotline at +1 833-635-7060 (TTY: 711).
How do I request a fair hearing if I think the decision about my status was wrong?	To request a fair hearing, you will need to complete the following steps: 1. Complete the Fair Hearing Request Form that was included with your termination letter. The form will ask you to explain why you

	think the decision to end your NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid coverage was incorrect. 2. Submit your completed form to NJ FamilyCare at the address listed on the form, along with a copy of the termination notice**.** 3. Wait for a response. If NJ FamilyCare agrees that an error was made, you will get a letter telling you that you were found eligible. If NJ FamilyCare does not agree that an error was made, a hearing with an administrative law judge will be scheduled. 4. Prepare for your hearing. You can get help presenting your argument, and you can bring evidence or witnesses to support your case. 5. Attend your hearing. At the hearing, you will be able to explain why you believe you should still qualify for coverage. 6. Wait for a final decision from the judge. You will be notified of the decision in writing.

Where can I go for help understanding the appeals process?	**Help is available.** There are community organizations and legal clinics that can help you understand the fair hearing process and may be able to help with presenting your argument. These include:
	
	• **Legal Services of New Jersey:**
	  ○ Call: +1 833-576-5776 (TTY: 711)
	  ○ Visit: www.lsnjlawhotline.org
	• **Community Health Law Project:**
	  ○ Visit: www.chlp.org
	• **Disability Rights New Jersey:**
	  ○ Call: +1 800-922-7233
	  ○ Visit: www.disabilityrightsnj.org
	
	Other organizations in your area may be able to assist. Note that some of these organizations may only work with people in certain situations (for instance, if you are a person with a disability) and may not be able to help if your circumstances are different.

Alternative Coverage Options	
Where can I get other health care coverage or low-cost health services?	You may be eligible for alternate insurance for the remainder of 2026. Starting October 1, 2026, you may qualify for health coverage through Get Covered New Jersey, the State's Official Health Insurance Marketplace. You may be eligible for financial help to lower the cost of your monthly premium and out-of-pocket costs until the end of 2026. However, due to new federal rules, beginning January 1, 2027, you must have a qualifying immigration status to receive financial help. If you do not have a qualifying immigration status, you may pay full price for coverage in 2027. You can learn more about your coverage options and free local assistance at GetCovered.NJ.gov.

	If you lost health care coverage, the NJ Department of Health offers the following resource to help you locate a low-cost health center or free clinic: Find a Health Center or Free Clinic. In addition, the Medical Emergency Payment Program covers emergency services, including labor and delivery, for New Jersey residents age 19 and older who do not qualify for NJ FamilyCare because they do not meet the U.S. citizenship or immigration requirement.
Will I be able to get financial support for other coverage?	You should visit the Get Covered New Jersey marketplace to get the best rates on coverage options that are available to you.
Can anyone help me find alternative coverage?	Yes, there are Navigators and Certified Application Counselors available to help you find other health coverage. You can find assistance on the Get Covered New Jersey website. Get Covered New Jersey offers free help to any individual seeking health insurance coverage options. The Navigators and Certified Application Counselors will help make recommendations about which plan is best for you.
Is there a special enrollment period to sign up for alternative coverage?	Yes, you will have a special enrollment period to select a new plan at Get Covered New Jersey, extending 60 days after your coverage ended on September 30, 2026. You should keep a copy of the letter you received to show when your coverage ended.
Will I still be able to get any coverage in an emergency?	Yes. The Medical Emergency Payment Program covers emergency services, including labor and delivery, for New Jersey residents age 19 and older who do not qualify for NJ FamilyCare because they do not meet the U.S. citizenship or immigration requirement.
Where to get help	
Where can I go if I have questions?	There are several places where you can get help: • **HMS:** You can call the HMS hotline at +1 833-635-7060 (TTY: 711) for help with questions about your letter, how to submit your documents, or general questions about this process • **Legal Services of New Jersey (LSNJ):** If you need help understanding if you may be eligible or need assistance documenting your status, Legal Services of New Jersey may be able to help. Call the LSNJ HealthLine at +1 833-576-5776 (TTY: 711) for information and legal advice. You may also apply for help online at www.lsnjlawhotline.org • **Health Benefits Coordinator Call Center:** You can call the Health Benefits Coordinator Call Center at +1 800-701-0710 (TTY: 711) if you have questions about your health benefits

I don't speak English well. How can I access help in my preferred language?	You can get help in the language with which you are most comfortable. For live support, you can call the HMS hotline at +1 833-635-7060 (TTY: 711) and ask for an interpreter. An interpreter can be arranged to join the call at no cost to you. To view a translated copy of your notice, please visit the “View letters in your preferred language” section of the Non-citizen Eligibility webpage, available at https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/obbba/noncitizen.shtml. Your letter provides you with more information on how to access translation services. If you need help understanding if you may be eligible or need assistance documenting your status, Legal Services of New Jersey may be able to help. Call the LSNJ HealthLine at +1 833-576-5776 (TTY: 711) for information and legal advice. An interpreter can be arranged to join the call at no cost to you. You may also apply for help online at www.lsnjlawhotline.org.
Special situations	
Am I impacted by this change if I am on Medicaid through the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program?	Yes, if you are enrolled in Medicaid via the SSI program, you are impacted by the federal rule change. You will be reviewed for Medicaid eligibility using the new rules. See the question “What non-citizen statuses no longer qualify for NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid coverage?” for more details on what statuses no longer apply. There have been no changes to SSI eligibility, so your payments may continue even if your Medicaid coverage does not. If you were impacted by these changes, you should check your mail for a letter that includes instructions on how to submit proof if still eligible. If you have not responded, there is still time. You can respond any time before December 31, 2026, but the sooner the better.
What healthcare coverage is available to pregnant people without lawfully present immigration status?	Pregnant people without lawfully present immigration status do not qualify for NJ FamilyCare. Pregnant people without lawfully present immigration status can use the NJ Supplemental Prenatal and Contraceptive Program (NJSPCP) and the Medical Emergency Payment Program (MEPP). The NJ Supplemental Prenatal and Contraceptive Program (NJSPCP) provides prenatal and family planning services to women who do not qualify for NJ FamilyCare because of their immigration status. Visit https://njfamilycare.dhs.state.nj.us/njspcp.aspx for more information on NJSPCP. Medical Emergency Payment Program (MEPP) covers emergency services, including labor and delivery, for New Jersey residents age 19 and older who do not qualify for NJ FamilyCare because they do not meet the U.S. citizenship or immigration requirement. Visit

	www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/individuals-families/familycare/mepp for more information on MEPP.
If a child under 19 received the non-citizen initial letter, what documents should they provide?	All children under 19 are still eligible for Medicaid. If they received a non-citizen initial letter, they received the letter in error. The head of household can call the HMS hotline number listed on the letter [+1 833-635-7060 (TTY: 711)] to confirm if the member should have received a letter. If they are a child, HMS will send a message to the NJ FamilyCare team and NJ FamilyCare will get the child's coverage restarted.
What if my address has changed?	If your contact information has changed, please fill out the address update form to get in touch with NJ FamilyCare and let us know your new address. This is to make sure that you will get your outcome letter and other messages from NJ FamilyCare. You can access the address update form here: https://dmahs-nj.my.site.com/addressupdate/. You can also call +1 800-701-0710 (TTY: 711) to update your address over the phone.
What if I've moved out of New Jersey?	If you do not live in New Jersey, you no longer qualify for NJ FamilyCare. You should call +1 800-701-0710 (TTY: 711) to report that you do not live in New Jersey.
What if I am helping a family member or friend who has been impacted?	You should make sure that the family member or friend understands the changes and signs all necessary forms and letters themselves. Under no circumstances should someone sign forms on a member's behalf.
I have Medicare too — does that change anything?	No, having Medicare does not affect your NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid coverage under this process: the two programs have separate rules. However, please be aware that the changes to federal law, as a result of H.R.1 (also known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act), will also affect Medicare coverage for some non-citizens starting January 4, 2027. If you have questions about your Medicare coverage, contact Medicare directly.
Does NJ FamilyCare count as a public benefit under the public charge rule?	For more information on the public charge rule, visit https://nj.gov/humanservices/njnewamericans/newcomers/pcharge/