



Medicaid Citizenship Requirements for U.S. Citizens



How has the application process changed?

Before September 2006, people applying for Medicaid could simply check a box stating they were U.S. citizens without showing documents to prove it. Now, applicants must show official proof they are U.S. citizens or legal aliens before they can be approved for Medicaid.

What if I cannot provide documents to prove U.S. citizenship?

Your caseworker must give you time to provide documents that show U.S. citizenship if you do not have proof on hand when you apply. New applicants cannot be eligible for Medicaid benefits unless they meet the requirement. Reapplying applicants must meet this requirement in order for benefits to continue.

Who does not need proof of U.S. citizenship?

People applying for Disability Medical Assistance, enrolled in Medicare, receiving Supplemental Security Income or applying for Alien Emergency Medical Assistance do not need to meet the requirement. See Rule 5101:1-38-02 for more exceptions.

- Now U.S. citizens must prove their citizenship when applying for Medicaid.
- U.S. citizens need to prove citizenship only one time.
- Caseworkers must help Medicaid applicants get the proof they need.

By law, everyone applying for Medicaid must establish legal citizenship or be a legal alien.

How often do I need to prove my U.S. citizenship?

In Ohio, you need to prove your U.S. citizenship only one time.

Can I get help from my caseworker?

Yes, your caseworker must help you get the correct documents to prove U.S. citizenship. Please see the chart on the inside for more information about which documents meet the requirement.

For more information call the Medicaid Consumer Hotline:

1-800-324-8680

TTY/TDD for hearing impaired:

1-800-292-3572

Ted Strickland, *Governor*
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Equal Opportunity Employer

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This information is not intended to replace, change or obsolete any portion of the Medicaid Eligibility Manual (MEM) or department rule. Additional copies can be requested by faxing to: (614) 728-7724.

One-time proof of citizenship required for Medicaid



What documents can I use to prove U.S. citizenship?

The following chart will explain what documents you can use to prove U.S. citizenship. These documents must be originals or copies certified by the originating agency.



You will need one Citizenship Document

One document from this list will fully satisfy the U.S. citizenship verification requirement. Naturalized citizens can only use these documents. This is an all-inclusive list.

U.S. Passport

Certificate of Naturalization (N-550 or N-570)

Certificate of United States Citizenship (N-650 or N-561)

Other specified documents*

Or one Birth Document and one Identity Document

If you cannot provide a document listed above, you must provide one birth document and one identity document to satisfy the U.S. citizenship verification requirement.

Birth Documents

U.S. Birth Certificate

U.S. National I.D. Card (I-197 or I-179)

Report of birth abroad of a United States citizen (FS-240)

Other specified documents*

* Any other documents specified by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, by regulation, that provide proof of U.S. citizenship and a reliable means of documentation of personal identity.

Identity Documents

Government-issued I.D. (with photo)

State-issued driver's license (with photo)

U.S. Military dependent's I.D. card

U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Card

Native American tribal document

For children younger than 16 years of age:

A school record, school I.D., or report card

A day-care or nursery school record

An affidavit completed by a parent or guardian

Civil Rights Contact

If you feel discriminated against, send your complaint to:

Civil Rights
Ohio Dept. of Job & Family Services
150 E. Gay Street, 18th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-3130

State Hearings Contact

If you do not agree with an action or a decision on your benefits, including health care you may contact:

1-866-635-3748,
choose option 1