



IMMIGRANTS AND THE ACA

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Immigration Law divides individuals as:

- U.S. Citizen,
- Legal Permanent Residents (LPR),
- Foreign people with Visas or other permits considered “Persons Residing Under the Color of Law” (PRUCOL), and
- Undocumented

As a U.S. Citizen, can I apply or obtain health coverage through the ACA?

YES!

If you were born in the United States, Guam, Puerto Rico or Virgin Islands, or you went through the process of Naturalization you are considered to be a U.S. citizen.

For the purposes of the ACA you are considered to be **LAWFULLY PRESENT** in the United States and you should get benefits under the ACA.

As an LPR, can I apply or obtain health coverage through the ACA?

YES!

If you are a Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) and have a valid green card you are considered to be **LAWFULLY PRESENT** in the United States, and you should apply to obtain health coverage.

Depending on your income you may qualify to purchase health coverage through the exchange or enroll into Medi-Cal.

As a foreign person holding a Visa and a valid work permit, can I apply or obtain health coverage through the ACA?

DEPENDS!

If you fall under any of the following categories, you can apply or obtain health coverage:

- Refugee
- Asylee
- Cuban/Haitian entrants;
- U Visa (victims of crime, battered spouse or children, etc.);
- T Visa (victims of trafficking);
- VAWA (battered spouse or children of a U.S. Citizen).

As an Undocumented Immigrant, can I apply or obtain health coverage through the ACA?

NO!

Undocumented Immigrants were excluded from the mandate of buying health coverage, and also they are not obligated to pay any penalty taxes.

Some examples:

- *Emergency Medi-Cal;
- *Charity Care as a form of financial assistance;
- *Emergency rooms in hospitals;
- *Community Clinics;
- *Some Counties have safety nets available for the Undocumented community.

If I am a Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipient, can I apply or obtain health coverage through the ACA?

Due to a change of policy, DACA beneficiaries were explicitly excluded from the ACA, Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). They are not considered to be lawfully present for health insurance purposes, meaning they are not obligated to pay penalty taxes.

Available options:

- ❖ In the State of California, DACA beneficiaries can qualify for full scope Medi-Cal if their income is below 138% FPL, and if their age is between 19 – 64 years.
- ❖ Gain health coverage through their employer.
- ❖ Buy private health insurance.

Who is considered a Mixed Status Family?

Families that are mixed-status include people who are lawfully present and people who are undocumented.

For example:

- Mom is undocumented, dad is a legal permanent resident, son is a DACA beneficiary, and daughter is a U.S. Citizen.

Only those who are lawfully present in the United States must enroll in health coverage, either Covered California or Medi-Cal, and they only need to provide the information of the person who is applying for the coverage.

Remember! the information share is confidential and would be used only for eligibility purposes, it CANNOT be used for DEPORTATION purposes.

Covered California v. Medi-Cal

Covered California

139% - 400% FPL

Medi-Cal

0% - 138% FPL

Enrollment period:

October 1, 2014 - March 31st, 2015*

Open all year

Medical Coverage begins:

January 1st, 2015

January 1st, 2015

*Note: Enrollment outside those dates if life changing circumstance

Barriers Mixed Status Families Face

- Language barriers;
- Understanding the complexities, especially with immigration factors;
- Webpage and telephone;
- Not having a history of having access to health care coverage.



MORE QUESTIONS

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