

New Medicaid work rule starts January 1, 2027

Adults 19 to 64 in the Medicaid expansion group may need to show 80 hours a month of work or other activities to keep their coverage.

80 hours

a month of work, volunteering, job training or school

\$580

a month in income also counts (80 × \$7.25)

Jan 1, 2027

federal start date; a few states started earlier

Who it applies to

- Adults **19 to 64** who get Medicaid as an adult based on low income only (the “expansion” group)
- In the 40 states and D.C. that expanded Medicaid, plus Georgia Pathways and Wisconsin BadgerCare Plus adults without children
- Not if you have Medicare, or get Medicaid another way, such as through a disability or SSI

How to meet the rule

In the month or months your state checks, do **one** of these:

- **80 hours** of work (gig work counts), community service, job training, or school, or a mix that adds up to 80
- Go to school at least **half-time**
- Have at least **\$580** in monthly income

What to do now

- 1 Update your contact info.** Make sure your state Medicaid office has your current address and phone number.
- 2 Open your mail.** Read every letter from Medicaid and answer by the deadline.
- 3 Keep proof each month.** Pay stubs, school papers, or a signed note from where you volunteer.
- 4 Report when asked.** Send your hours, or tell your state why you are exempt.

You may be exempt if you:

- Are a parent or caretaker of a child **13 or younger**, or care for a person with a disability
- Are pregnant, or have postpartum coverage after a baby
- Are blind or disabled, or have a serious or complex medical condition, a substance use disorder, or a disabling mental health condition
- Are American Indian or Alaska Native
- Are a veteran with a total (100%) VA disability rating, or paid at that rate
- Were in foster care at 18, had Medicaid then, and are under 26
- Are in a drug or alcohol treatment program
- Meet SNAP or TANF work rules
- Are in jail or prison, or got out in the last 3 months

Your state must check its own records first. Many people will be exempted automatically.

Don't lose your coverage. Got a notice? Act fast.

- You have at least **30 days** to respond, and your coverage continues during that time.
- If your coverage is ending, you can ask for a **fair hearing**. You can also reapply at any time.
- Free help: your state Medicaid office, local legal aid, and health navigators.



Free checker: does the rule apply to you?

medicaidworkrules.com

Scan the code or type the address. Answer a few questions to see if you are likely exempt and what your state will ask for.