

Medically Needy (MN) Medi-Cal for Children, Parents and Caretakers

Who is this program for?

The program covers parents, some caretaker relatives, and children under the age of 21 in families where deprivation criteria are met. Families whose incomes are too high to qualify for Medi-Cal 1931(b) may be eligible for this program.

What are the eligibility requirements?

- In order for parents or caretaker relatives to qualify for Medically Needy Medi-Cal, the deprivation criteria must be met. That means that at least one parent is absent, deceased, incapacitated or unemployed. (The unemployment definition is that the principal wage earner works less than 100 hours per month).
- Families must be California residents to be eligible.

Caretaker relatives are eligible for this program, but individuals cannot qualify as caretaker relatives eligible for this program if the children's parents live in the home, unless parental rights have been terminated.

NOTE: Caretaker relatives living in the home with the parent of the child are eligible under Medi-Cal 1931(b) rules as long as the parent does not have care and control over the child.

NOTE: Eligibility for Medi-Cal 1931(b) should be checked first since there are no work hour limitations for that program. For MN Medi-Cal, the primary wage earner cannot work more than 100 hours per month. Also, deductions are more generous in the Medi-Cal 1931(b) program.

How does immigration status affect eligibility?

In order to receive full-scope benefits, individuals must have satisfactory immigration or verified U.S. citizenship status. Individuals without satisfactory immigration or verified U. S. citizenship status are eligible to receive restricted or emergency services, including pregnancy-related care.

What benefits are covered?

Benefits are either full-scope or restricted depending on immigration or verified U. S. citizenship status.

How are services delivered?

- Full-scope beneficiaries generally receive services through managed care plans. Beneficiaries go to providers, hospitals, clinics and pharmacies that participate in their selected health plan. Family members can choose different plans if they wish.
- Individuals who are eligible for restricted Medi-Cal are not eligible to join a health plan and will receive care under FFS.

What is the cost?

- Families whose incomes are at or below 100% FIG receive services at no cost. However, most families in MN Medi-Cal have a share of cost, where they pay for part of services received and Medi-Cal pays for the rest.
- If Share of Cost Medi-Cal enrollees who meet their share of cost obligation for the month, Medi-Cal will pay for their medical costs for the remainder of the month.

NOTE: In addition to deductions normally allowed for Medi-Cal, this program also allows

deductions for educational expenses and health insurance premiums.

Do resources count?

Yes, resources do count for this program. Resources are items that a family may own and can include cars, houses, jewelry, savings or checking accounts, etc. Please refer to page 2-8 for the Resource Limit Chart.

How to apply:

Interested applicants can find district DPSS offices in their areas by looking in their local white pages under County Government to request mail-in applications, apply by phone or make appointments. For a list of local DPSS offices or an application visit: <http://dpss.lacounty.gov>. They may also apply online: <https://www.dpss.lacounty.gov>.

Contact Information:

For more information or to receive an application for Medi-Cal, call 1-888-747-1222. Call the Medi-Cal Health and Nutrition hotline at 1-877-597-4777, visit <http://dpss.lacounty.gov> or visit a local Department of Public Social Services office or visit www.medi-cal.ca.gov for more information on Medi-Cal programs.

Medi-Cal 1931(b) and Medically Needy Program Comparison

	Medi-Cal 1931(b)	MN Medi-Cal
What are the eligibility requirements for parents?	Parents who work more than 100 hours per month may qualify.	Parents who work more than 100 hours per month do not qualify. If household consists of single parent, the parent would qualify possibly with a share of cost.
Are caretaker relatives eligible?	Caretaker relatives may be eligible if child’s parent lives in the home.	Caretaker relatives are not eligible if the child’s parent lives in the home, unless parent parental rights have been terminated.
What are the resource limits?	Resource limits are stricter than MN.	Resource limits are less strict than Medi-Cal 1931 (b).



Assistor Tips!!!

- Families may qualify for more than one Medi-Cal program. It is important to consider which program is most beneficial and appropriate for the family. Remember that Medi-Cal workers are instructed to follow the priorities listed on page 2-10 in determining eligibility.