

Medicaid Community Engagement Requirements

What changes are coming to NJ FamilyCare?

The federal government changed the rules as to who is eligible for NJ FamilyCare, the state Medicaid program, starting Fall 2026. These rule changes are part of H.R.1 or the "One Big Beautiful Bill Act," (OBBBA) signed in law in July 2025.

Beginning January 1, 2027:

- Certain adults aged 19 to 64 will have to work, volunteer, or go to school to keep their coverage or qualify for NJ FamilyCare/Medicaid. These are called "**community engagement requirements**," also commonly known as "work requirements."
- These NJ FamilyCare members must also renew their coverage every **6 months** (instead of every 12 months).

How are people with IDD impacted?

- People with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or enrolled on an NJ FamilyCare Aged, Blind Disabled (ABD) Medicaid program are not affected by work requirements and do not need to renew coverage every 6 months.
 - ABD members still renew Medicaid coverage once a year (every 12 months).
- If you are enrolled on regular NJ FamilyCare, you may qualify for an exemption to the work requirements, such as by being identified as "**medically frail**."
 - NJ FamilyCare may ask you for information to prove whether you qualify for an exemption to the work requirements.

What can you do to prepare?

- Consider applying for ABD Medicaid if you are enrolled on regular NJ FamilyCare.
- Ensure your information is up-to-date with NJ FamilyCare.
- Watch for letters, emails, or texts from NJ FamilyCare or your health plan.
- Open and respond to all mail from NJ FamilyCare as soon as possible.
- Apply or renew your coverage even if you think you may no longer qualify.
- Visit the NJ FamilyCare federal changes website:

<https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmahs/obbba/non-citizen/index.shtml>

Questions?

Email: healthcareadvocacy@arcnj.org

Update your
information!

