

Targeted Adult Medicaid Program

Frequently Asked Questions



What is the Targeted Adult Medicaid Program?

House Bill 437 (2016 General Session) established a plan for a Utah-specific approach to reduce the number of uninsured adults in the state. The bill directed the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) to expand Medicaid coverage and created three new eligibility groups of adults without dependent children.

Who is eligible?

Adults without dependent children earning up to 5% of the federal poverty level (FPL) who are:

- Chronically homeless
- Involved in the justice system through probation, parole, or court ordered treatment needing substance abuse or mental health treatment
- Needing substance abuse treatment or mental health treatment

Additionally, on July 1, 2017, Medicaid coverage for parents with dependent children was increased to 60% of the FPL.

How many adults can enroll?

Based on current funding, DOH estimates that 4,000-6,000 adults without dependent children will be covered. In addition, there have been 4,000 parents covered since the income level for parents was increased in July.

What are the eligibility criteria for adults without dependent children?

All adults without dependent children must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Age 19-64
- U.S. citizen or qualified alien
- Resident of Utah and not in a public institution
- Household income up to 5% FPL
- Ineligible for any other Medicaid program (with the exception of Medically Needy or Refugee Medicaid)
- Meet one of three targeted categories:
 - Chronically Homeless
 - Continuously homeless for at least 12 months or on at least four separate occasions in the last three years (totaling at least 12 months) AND have a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, post-traumatic stress disorder, cognitive impairments or chronic physical illness or disability; OR
 - Currently living in supportive housing and previously met the definition of chronically homeless above.
 - Involved in the Justice System and Needing Substance Use or Mental Health Treatment
 - Complied with and substantially completed a substance use disorder treatment program while incarcerated; OR
 - Discharged from the State Hospital after being admitted to the civil unit due to a criminal charge, or to the forensic unit due to a criminal offense; OR
 - Involved with a Drug or Mental Health court.
 - Needing Substance Use or Mental Health Treatment
 - Living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter for 6 months within a 12-month period and has a substance use or mental health disorder; OR
 - Receiving General Assistance from the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) and has a diagnosed substance use or mental health disorder; OR
 - Discharged from the State Hospital after being civilly committed.

When will the program begin accepting applications?

As of November 1, 2017, the chronically homeless and those involved in the justice system are eligible for coverage. The program will continue accepting applications for these categories until further notice. Once capacity is reached, the program may close enrollment. The program will not be accepting applications for the third targeted category at this time. Depending on available funding, the third targeted category may be opened at a later date. UDOH also expects to receive authorization to begin paying for residential treatment of substance use disorders for Medicaid members.

Visit medicaid.utah.gov for more information and ongoing updates.