



Health Insurance Does Not Affect Immigration Status

In the U.S., health insurance helps you pay for medical care like doctor's visits, preventive care, and managing diabetes or high blood pressure. Importantly, health insurance can protect you from very expensive medical costs in an urgent care clinic or hospital emergency room.

Many people get health insurance through their job or from government-paid programs like Medicaid and Medicare. Some people buy insurance on the Health Insurance Marketplace, which in Washington State is called Washington Healthplanfinder.

You Do Not Need US Citizenship, a Green Card, or Immigration Papers

The State of Washington is making health insurance available to all residents, regardless of immigration status.

Getting health insurance, or receiving financial assistance for it, does not affect your immigration status or application for citizenship. It also does not affect the status of your family members or anyone who lives with you.

Health Insurance Does Not Make You a "Public Charge"

A new public charge rule that went into effect in December 2022 says that benefits like health insurance are not considered when determining if someone is a public charge. "Public Charge" describes a person applying for permanent residency or permission to enter the U.S. who could depend on the U.S. government as their main source of support in the future.

Community Health Plan of Washington (CHPW)

CHPW was founded more than 30 years ago by community health centers across the state to help immigrants and other underserved people access quality health care. We remain an advocate for immigrants in Washington. To find out more, call **1-833-993-0181** (TTY: 711), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



At CHPW, we pledge to:

- **Protect information we have about you from being used for immigration enforcement.**
- **Protect your personal and health information.**
- **Respect you, your beliefs, and your experiences.**



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