

H.R.1 Impacts to Apple Health Overview

May 2026

Eligibility Policy Innovation and Community Support

Topics

H.R.1 overview

Timing

Outreach and engagement

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H.R.1 overview

Overview

- ▶ House Resolution One (H.R.1) includes federal Medicaid requirements that will impact Apple Health (Medicaid) eligibility and renewal processes in Washington.
- ▶ Health Care Authority (HCA) has advanced policy development and technology planning to prepare for these changes.
- ▶ Hundreds of thousands of Apple Health customers may be affected over the next several years, particularly adults enrolled through Apple Health for Adults.

What's changing

- ▶ H.R.1 includes changes related to:
 - ▶ Eligibility for some non-U.S. citizens
 - ▶ More frequent eligibility renewals for Apple Health for Adults
 - ▶ New federal work requirements for some adults
 - ▶ Shorter retroactive coverage periods
 - ▶ Additional verification requirements required by federal law
- ▶ Implementation will occur in phases beginning in 2026–2027

Implementation approach

- ▶ HCA's implementation approach is guided by four principles:
 - ▶ Least burdensome processes for customers
 - ▶ Continuity of coverage
 - ▶ Clear and timely communication
 - ▶ Efficient use of technology and data
- ▶ Planning is iterative and responsive to evolving federal guidance, with a focus on using existing systems wherever possible.

Reducing administrative burden

- ▶ Where possible, HCA will:
 - ▶ Verify work requirements and exemptions using existing data sources
 - ▶ Reduce paperwork and follow-up requests
 - ▶ Limit customer action unless additional information is needed
- ▶ Automation supports coverage continuity and reduces administrative burden for both clients and providers.

Timing

Cross agency coordination

- ▶ Health Care Authority (HCA), the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), and Washington Health Benefit Exchange (Exchange) are working in cooperation to align policy, operations, and communications to reduce disruption for clients, providers, and organizations.
- ▶ Shared commitments
 - ▶ Unified planning and implementation
 - ▶ Consistent, coordinated communications
 - ▶ Clear roles and accountability
 - ▶ Client-centered transition management

Timing at a glance

- ▶ Customers will receive advance notice prior to any required action

2025 – 2026

- Policy development, system planning, stakeholder engagement

2026

- Outreach and education
- Eligibility changes for noncitizens (October)

January 2027

- Eligibility, renewal, and retroactive coverage changes

Next steps

- ▶ HCA will continue to:
 - ▶ Finalize policy and system requirements
 - ▶ Engage stakeholders and community leaders
 - ▶ Develop customer-focused communications
 - ▶ Share updates as implementation approaches
- ▶ External outreach will expand as timelines are finalized.

Outreach and engagement

Washington State Health Care Authority

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Changes coming to Apple Health

This page shares information on the recent federal changes to Medicaid (known as H.R. 1) that may impact your Apple Health (Medicaid) coverage. This page is for Apple Health clients. If you are a legislator, partner, or other stakeholders, [view our H.R. 1 impacts webpage](#).

On this page

- [What this means for you](#)
- [How to stay informed](#)
- [Frequently asked questions](#)

Federal changes (known as H.R. 1) are coming to Apple Health (Medicaid) over the next few years, but there is nothing you need to do right now. These changes will roll out slowly, and many details are still being developed. We are sharing information now, so you know what to expect.

What this means for you

The Health Care Authority (HCA) is reviewing how these changes will affect Apple Health. Our top priority is to keep you updated and let you know if you need to take action to keep your coverage. We are committed to making any changes as easy as possible.

Changes will roll out over the next few years, and many details are still being developed. If changes to eligibility, coverage, or benefits are required, we will share that information clearly and early, so you know what to expect.

Expected changes

View the following table for examples of some expected federal changes that may affect your coverage.

Change	Start date
Changes to eligibility for refugee, asylee, and other noncitizen adults.	October 1, 2026
To remain eligible, people enrolled in Apple Health for Adults will be required to work, train, or do community engagement 80 hours per month (with some exceptions).	January 1, 2027

H.R. 1 webpages

- ▶ Three specific H.R.1 webpages for clients, community leaders and legislative partners
 - ▶ [Clients](#)
 - ▶ [Community leaders](#)
 - ▶ [Legislative partners](#)

Stakeholder webinars

- ▶ HCA will hold quarterly stakeholder webinars providing H.R.1 updates.
- ▶ 2026 H.R.1 webinar dates
 - ▶ February 26 | [View online](#) | [FAQ](#)
 - ▶ June 4
 - ▶ September 3
 - ▶ December 3
- ▶ Registration details will be posted online
 - ▶ Stakeholder training and education | [Webinars, video, and presentations](#)
 - ▶ Supporting clients with changes to Apple Health | [Ambassador webpage](#)

Resources

Resources

- ▶ [Changes coming to Apple Health](#) (for clients)
- ▶ [H.R. 1 impacts](#) (for stakeholders)
- ▶ [Supporting clients with changes to Apple Health](#) (ambassador-style program for community organizations)
- ▶ Stay connected with us:
 - ▶ [Sign up for Apple Health GovDelivery](#)
 - ▶ Select Apple Health programs and eligibility “general information and updates”
- ▶ Questions?
 - ▶ Email: HCAAHEligPolicy@hca.wa.gov



Thank you