

# State CHIP for non-U.S. citizens

## frequently asked questions

### What is State CHIP?

Effective January 1, 2024, the state of Utah will offer medical and dental benefits for non-U.S. citizen children called State CHIP. Children of working families may be eligible if they do not have other health insurance and cannot qualify for Medicaid or the traditional Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) program due to citizenship status. A special open enrollment for State CHIP will begin on January 1, 2024.

### Is State CHIP subject to the "Public Charge" rule?

No, receiving State CHIP benefits is not subject to public charge and will not affect immigration or citizenship status. We encourage everyone, including non-U.S. citizens, to seek necessary healthcare or preventive services. The goal of State CHIP is to reduce confusion and fear that may keep the children of immigrant families from accessing critical medical, dental, and mental health services.

### Will a child's immigration status be reported to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE)?

No. The state will not report immigration status or undocumented individuals to ICE.

### When does State CHIP go into effect?

January 1, 2024

### When can families apply?

Enrollment for State CHIP will open on January 1, 2024. The Department of Workforce Services (DWS) will process all applications and determine eligibility. Applications will continue to be accepted until the program has reached the maximum number of children who can be covered on State CHIP. With the available funding, we estimate the program will be able to cover up to 2,000 children. Once enrollment has closed, applications will not be accepted until the next open enrollment period.

### What happens after a family applies?

DWS will complete and process all applications. Once an application is received, DWS may contact the applicant for an interview. DWS may also ask for verifications, like paycheck

stubs, that are needed to determine eligibility. It may take up to 4-6 weeks to process an application.

### Who is eligible for State CHIP coverage?

Children who may be eligible have working parents and meet the following criteria:

- Non-U.S. citizen who is not a lawfully permanent resident (LPR/Green Card holder)
- Under the age of 19
- Meet income guidelines (shown in the below table)
- Not currently covered by health insurance
- Not eligible for Medicaid or other CHIP benefits
- Prior to the date of application, have been residing in Utah for at least 180 days

2023 Income Guidelines		
Family Size	Maximum Gross Income Per Month	Maximum Gross Income Per Year
2 (single parent & one child)	\$3,278	\$39,444
3	\$4,144	\$49,728
4	\$5,000	\$60,000
5	\$5,857	\$70,284
6	\$6,714	\$80,568
7	\$7,570	\$90,840
8	\$8,472	\$101,124

### What if a child is not living with their parents?

The child may still be eligible, even if they are not living with their parents. Only the child's income, if any, will be considered. The guardian or caretaker's income will not be considered. The requirement for a 'working parent' does not apply and the child, guardian, or caretaker does not need to meet the 'working' requirement.

### **What does State CHIP cover?**

Children who qualify will be enrolled in Utah's Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and will receive comprehensive coverage that includes the following benefits:

- Well-child exams
- Immunizations
- Doctor visits
- Hospital and emergency care
- Prescriptions
- Hearing and eye exams
- Mental health and substance use services
- Dental care

### **What will State CHIP cost members?**

Members will be required to pay the following costs out of their own pocket:

- Up to \$75 for a quarterly premium.
- Co-pays, coinsurance, and deductibles for some services. Members will not have to pay a co-pay for preventive care like well-child exams or immunizations.

### **When will State CHIP coverage end?**

A State CHIP case will be reviewed every 12 months to see if the member is still eligible.

Coverage may also end when a member:

- Turns 19
- Becomes a citizen or a lawfully permanent resident (LPR)
- Is no longer a resident in Utah
- Exceeds income guidelines
- Does not pay the quarterly premium

### **Is there help with the application in other languages?**

Yes, DWS offers help with interpreter and translation needs. You can call and request assistance over the phone at 1-866-435-7414 or go into a local DWS office. To find the office closest to you, please visit the DWS website at <https://jobs.utah.gov/>.

### **If a family has children covered by Medicaid or CHIP already, can their other children who were not previously eligible apply for this new CHIP program?**

Yes, children who are not eligible or have been previously denied eligibility because of citizenship status can apply for State CHIP benefits, even if there are other children in the household who qualify for Medicaid or CHIP.

### **If approved, will the family pick a health and dental plan?**

Yes, CHIP has two (2) health plans. Members get to pick which one they want. The health plans CHIP offers statewide are:

- Molina
- Select Health

CHIP has one dental plan statewide. The CHIP dental plan is Premier Access.

Once approved, members will get a letter from CHIP explaining benefits and how to choose a health plan.