

Tips for Applying for Expanded MaineCare

- On Page 1 of the MaineCare application where you are asked “What programs do you want to apply for?”, you should check “MaineCare”. If you need family planning services, you can also check “Limited Family Planning” (but, remember, people who get MaineCare expansion will also get family planning services with that coverage). If you check the Limited Family Planning box, you may be approved for that benefit but also get denied for full benefit MaineCare (Medicaid expansion). If that happens, be sure to appeal the denial of your MaineCare application within 30 calendar days of your denial or call Maine Equal Justice Partners (MEJP) at 1-866-626-7059 for help. You can also use this link to provide your information so someone from MEJP can follow up with you: <https://forms.mejp.org/Contact>.
- On Page 1 of the application in the “All Applicants” section, check “Yes” if you had any medical care in the last 90 days and the write “All Months” on that line.
- You will need to include **copies** of any documents you have to show DHHS your income. You can include copies with a paper application or scan and upload them for an online application. Examples of documents to include:
 - copies of your pay stubs for the last four weeks if you work,
 - a copy of your most recent tax return,
 - a copy of your Social Security award letter, or
 - a copy of the letter that shows the amount of your unemployment benefits.

See the cover letter to the application for a full list of the information you may be asked to provide.

- If you do not have copies of your pay stubs for the last four weeks, you can ask your employer for a letter verifying your gross income. It must be written on your employer’s letterhead.
- If you don’t have the documents listed above, you should apply as close to July 2, 2018 as you can anyway. Then send **copies** of your documents as soon as you can. Refer to your confirmation number if you applied online.
- Make a copy of your application if you are applying by mail. Libraries often have copy machines you can use for a small fee.
- Send your paper application by certified mail if you can afford to do that and save the receipt. If you fax your printed application, be sure to save the fax receipt.

- If you are applying online, be sure to write down your confirmation number. Save a copy of your application as a PDF if you are able or take screenshots of your application.
- If you are applying in person, try to go by 8:30 AM if you can because lines and wait times can be long later in the day.
- Call DHHS at 1-855-797-4357 to make sure they received your application. Sometimes applications are lost whether they are mailed or filed online.
- Save any letters or emails you receive from DHHS.
- If you are denied or have questions, call MEJP at 1-866-626-7059 for help. MEJP can help you with the appeal process and also help you if problems come up.
- Go to <https://forms.mejp.org/Contact> to sign up for updates about the Medicaid expansion law. MEJP will notify you when the law is finally implemented, information about appealing any denials, updates, and any action taken by the courts. You can also learn about opportunities to get involved in the fight to secure health care for all Maine people.
- People who receive Medicare because they are disabled or 65 or older are prohibited by federal law from also getting coverage under Medicaid expansion. Medicare beneficiaries at these income levels may be eligible for additional help with prescription drugs or to pay Medicare premiums, co-payments, and deductibles from the Medicare Savings Programs (MSP). Here is a link to more information about MSP: <http://www.mejp.org/content/help-medicare-and-prescription-drug-costs-medicare-savings-program>.