

Medicaid (MaineCare) Expansion Engagement Toolkit

Thank you for your interest in applying for expanded Medicaid (MaineCare) in Maine. We hope this toolkit will be helpful. More information can be found online at www.mejp.org or by calling 1-866-626-7059.

When is Medicaid (MaineCare) expanding in Maine?

Maine voters passed Medicaid expansion in November 2017. This new law goes into effect on July 2, 2018. On that date, Maine people can begin to apply for coverage. Because the Governor has failed to act, his administration is not yet prepared to approve applications for people who are eligible on that date. However, it is important to know that this inaction does not change the date the law goes into effect. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) must begin to take applications on that day and it will. To make people's rights clear, Maine Equal Justice Partners (MEJP) has put together this toolkit, created an online screening tool for people to get a rough estimate of whether they are eligible, and is hosting a hotline people can call if they need help.

It is important that individuals who may be eligible for expanded MaineCare apply as soon as they can beginning on July 2, 2018 so they can protect their legal right to retroactive coverage once the law is eventually implemented. We recognize that it is frustrating to apply for coverage when DHHS is not prepared to process the applications appropriately. The resources in this toolkit and online at www.mejp.org are intended to help people navigate this process as smoothly as possible.

What will I find in this toolkit?

This toolkit includes:

- an overview of who is eligible for expanded MaineCare,
- how to apply,
- tips for completing and submitting an application,
- how to appeal if someone is denied,
- an Appeal Letter form,
- an Appointment of an Authorized Representative form,
- an Authorization to Release Information form,
- answers to frequently asked questions,
- information to help immigrants navigate eligibility,
- ways to get involved and take action in the fight to achieve health care coverage for all Mainers,
- key contact information, and
- links to more information.

Will this toolkit be updated?

Yes. We will continue to update this toolkit as well as online materials as new information becomes available. We hope this toolkit will provide some support for those working with individuals as well as individuals who may be eligible themselves. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Kilrain del Rio at MEJP by emailing kkilraindelrio@mejp.org or by calling 207-626-7058, ext. 210.