

Community Engagement Overview

January 2020



The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) originally approved Utah's community engagement/work/self-sufficiency requirement in March 2019 and later reaffirmed that approval in December 2019. Effective January 2020, most adult expansion Medicaid members with income up to 138% FPL will need to meet this community engagement requirement or claim an exemption to maintain their Medicaid coverage. Adults enrolled in the Targeted Adult Medicaid program, those determined to be medically frail, and those that indicate they meet one of the exemptions below are not subject to the community engagement requirement.

The Utah Department of Health (UDOH) estimates that approximately 30% of adult expansion members will ultimately be subject to the community engagement requirement. At an estimated enrollment of 100,000 to 115,000 for FY 2021, approximately 30,000 to 35,000 adults would be subject to the requirement.

Exemptions

1. Working at least 30 hours a week, or working and earning the equivalent of 30 hours a week at federal minimum wage
2. Age 60-64
3. Pregnant or within the 60-day post-partum period
4. Physically or mentally unable to meet the participation requirements, as determined by a medical professional
5. Responsible for the care of a dependent child under age six (this applies to only one parent in the household per child)
6. Responsible for the care of a person with a disability recognized under federal law (this applies to only one family member per disabled person)
7. A member of a federally recognized tribe
8. Currently receiving unemployment insurance benefits, or awaiting an eligibility decision for those benefits
9. Participating regularly in a Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment program, including intensive outpatient treatment
10. Enrolled at least half time in any school (such as a college or university), vocational training or apprenticeship program
11. Participating in refugee employment services offered by the state (this may include vocational training and apprenticeship programs, case management, and employment planning)
12. Currently receiving SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program—Food Stamps) and/or the TANF Family Employment Program (FEP) and are participating in, or are exempt from, SNAP and/or the TANF Family Employment Program (FEP) employment requirements

Note: Members may also claim 'good cause' for unforeseen circumstances that do not meet one of the listed exemptions. (For example, the person was hospitalized, a death in the family, no internet access, severe inclement weather, etc.)

Visit medicaid.utah.gov for more information and ongoing updates.

Participation Requirements

Members who are subject to the community engagement requirement and do not meet an exemption must complete the following activities within a three-month participation period:

- Create a job seeker account with the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) at jobs.utah.gov
- Complete the online evaluation (series of questions)
- Complete the required online workshops
- Apply for at least 48 jobs
- Track all the above activities online

Individuals must complete the community engagement requirement each year.

Failure to Participate

Failure to participate results in loss of eligibility at the end of the month after the participation period.

Individuals who fail to participate are ineligible for Adult Expansion Medicaid until they:

- Complete the requirement and reapply for Medicaid, or
- Meet an exemption, or
- Apply after their original review period ends.

2020 Implementation

New applicants

- Required to participate as of the first of the month after application approval
- Allowed three-months to complete the participation requirement

Current enrollees

- Required to participate as of the first of the month after their next review

Member Education

UDOH sent a letter to Adult Expansion Members on December 19, 2019, explaining the Community Engagement Requirement. The same information is available on the Utah Medicaid website:

medicaid.utah.gov/expansion/

Individuals will receive information regarding the following at application and review:

- General information about the community engagement requirement.
- If exempt, notification that they meet an exemption.
- If not exempt, notification that they are required to participate or how to meet an exemption.

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