

**California Department of Health Care Services
Proposed Trailer Bill Language**

Full-Scope Expansion for Undocumented Adults, Ages 19-25

FACT SHEET

Issue Title: Full-Scope Expansion for Undocumented Adults, Ages 19-25 - This proposal would provide full-scope Medi-Cal coverage to all eligible individuals, ages 19 through 25, regardless of their citizenship or immigration status.

Background: In general, individuals who do not have satisfactory immigration status, but who are otherwise eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal, receive restricted-scope Medi-Cal benefits, which are limited to emergency and pregnancy-related services, and when needed, long-term care. Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14007.8, added by Senate Bill (SB) 75 (Committee on Budget & Fiscal Review, Chapter 18, Statutes of 2015), and amended by SB 4 (Lara, Chapter 709, Statutes of 2015) provides individuals under age 19 who do not have satisfactory immigration status, or are unable to establish satisfactory immigration status, with full-scope Medi-Cal benefits. This proposal would extend that coverage to individuals ages 19 through 25.

Justification for the Change: This proposal would provide these individuals with comprehensive health care services. This could reduce the use of emergency rooms for routine health care needs by young adults who otherwise would receive restricted-scope Medi-Cal. It will also pay for non-emergency care provided to undocumented immigrants that may otherwise be uncompensated, which supports the health care safety net for all. This proposal will improve the health care of eligible individuals, and as a result, protect the health of all Californians.

Specifically, this proposal would:

- Provide full-scope Medi-Cal to otherwise eligible applicants and beneficiaries, ages 19 through 25, regardless of citizenship or immigration status.
- Require coverage to begin no sooner than July 1, 2019.
- Require the Department of Health Care Services to claim federal funds to the extent the Department determines they are available.
- Require eligible individuals to enroll in a managed care plan, where available.
- Transition beneficiaries, ages 19 through 25 who are receiving restricted-scope Medi-Cal, to full-scope Medi-Cal when the Department implements this proposal.

Summary of Arguments in Support: This proposal would improve the consumer experience, help reduce the use of emergency rooms for routine health care needs by immigrants who otherwise would receive restricted-scope Medi-Cal, provide funding for some uncompensated care, and protect the public health of all Californians.

BCP Issue # and Title: 4260-027-BCP-2019-GB Full-Scope Expansion for Undocumented Adults 19-25.

Estimate Issue # and Title: Policy Change 204: Undocumented Young Adults Full-Scope Expansion.