



Welcome to the Coverage
Ambassadors Webinar! We will begin
shortly.

¡Bienvenidos al Seminario Web de
Embajadores de la Cobertura!
Comenzaremos en breve.

Translation and Captions



Spanish Translation - Select three dots on the top right, Language and Speech, Language Interpretation, and select Spanish.

Traducción al español - Seleccione tres puntos en la parte superior a la derecha, Idioma y Habla, Interpretación de Idiomas, y seleccione Español.



Closed captioning - Select the three dots, Language and Speech, Turn on Live Captions.

Subtítulos – Seleccione los tres puntos, Idioma y Habla, active Subtítulos en Vivo.

Chat and Q&A



All participants will remain muted during the meeting.



Use the Chat only for comments or to report technical issues.



Use the Q&A button to submit questions. We will call on participants who enter their questions there.



When called on, please turn on your camera if you're able.

Announcements

[Medi-Cal Benefit Changes Delayed to 2027](#)

[July Community Highlights Newsletter](#)

[Coverage Ambassador Webpage](#)

[Become a Coverage Ambassador](#)

Contact us:

Email: ambassadors@dhcs.ca.gov

Coverage Ambassadors Webinar

Transition of Unsatisfactory Immigration Status Medi-Cal Members to Fee-For-Service MCED Overview

Michael Freeman, Assistant Deputy Director, DHCS

What We'll Cover

1. Federal Guidance
2. What Is Fee-for-Service
3. Who Is Being Impacted
4. What This Means For Some Medi-Cal Members
5. What Won't Change
6. Steps DHCS Is Taking
7. What This Means For Plans And Providers
8. Medi-Cal Changes Timeline

Federal Guidance



Approximately
2 million Medi-Cal
members will be
impacted.

- » This change is required by new federal guidance issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and is outlined in the [State Medicaid Director Letter](#).
- » On January 1, 2027, Medi-Cal members with Unsatisfactory Immigration Status (UIS) will be moved from Medi-Cal Managed Care to Fee-For-Service.

What is Fee-for-Service and How Do Members Get Health Care?



- » Benefits are not coordinated by a health plan; there is no assigned care team or “medical home.”
- » Members will need to find and verify Medi-Cal providers who are currently accepting new patients.
- » Members will need to take with them their Medi-Cal Beneficiary Identification Card also known as “BIC card.”

Who Are The Medi-Cal Members Being Impacted By This Guidance?

Impacted Populations:

Medi-Cal members with Unsatisfactory Immigration Status:

- » All undocumented immigrants—including children and pregnant people.
- » Lawful Permanent Residents (Green Card Holders) who have been in the U.S. for less than five years.
- » Permanently Residing Under Color of Law (PRUCOL), non-citizens living in the U.S. with the knowledge and permission of immigrations authorities (such as those with pending asylum or stay of deportation) while they wait for a final status.

Not Impacted Populations:

- » U.S. Citizens.
- » Other immigrants:
 - Lawful Permanent Residents (Green Card Holders) who have been in the U.S. for five (5) years or more.

What This Means for Medi-Cal Members



Members are **not** losing coverage.
The way they get care is changing.

- » Members who are not impacted will continue to receive full scope medical services, mostly through Medi-Cal managed care plans.
- » Impacted members will automatically transition to Medi-Cal Fee-For-Service starting January 1, 2027.
- » Impacted members will lose access to some services that are only available through managed care, including Community Supports and Enhanced Care Management.

What Won't Change for Unsatisfactory Immigration Status Members

» Members with full-scope Medi-Cal will keep their medical, mental health, and substance use disorder coverage.

» Pharmacy benefits will continue to be provided through Medi-Cal Rx.

» Dental services will continue for children and pregnant women, former foster youth, and foster care children.

Steps DHCS is Taking

- » DHCS is committed to working closely with Medi-Cal members, managed care plans, providers, and community partners to support members throughout this transition.
 - DHCS is drafting a UIS Transition Policy Guide which is intended to be a "one stop shop" to help guide MCPs during this transition. The first version will be released in July and updated on a flow basis as additional guidance is finalized.
- » DHCS will be responsible for formal member noticing
- » DHCS will help members understand what this change means for their care by ensuring they know how to:
 - Continue getting services.
 - Find Fee-For-Service providers.

What This Means for Plans and Providers

Managed Care Plans (MCPs)

- » MCPs to prepare their internal operations such as their member and provider call centers to assist callers in understanding this change and resources available to them.
- » MCPs to assist with provider communication and outreach through provider portal postings and other provider-facing communication channels as appropriate.
- » MCPs to work with DHCS to share data to support transitions of care and help minimize care disruption (especially for special/vulnerable populations) to the extent possible.
- » MCPs to support continued provider access by leveraging DHCS draft communication templates to network providers.

Providers

- » Providers who do not regularly use FFS billing systems will need to reacquaint themselves with FFS billing steps and update their office systems.
- » Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) will shift to FFS billing for medical care and begin using California Dental Medicaid Management Information System (CD-MMIS) for dental claims.
- » In areas with fewer FFS providers, existing FFS clinics may see an increase in appointment requests as members transition.
- » Transportation companies will begin billing through the FFS billing system for these members.

Medi-Cal Changes Affecting Unsatisfactory Immigration Status Population

January 1, 2026

Enrollment freeze:
No new full scope
Medi-Cal enrollments
for certain UIS adults
(19-64).

October 1, 2026

Federal immigration
status
reclassification.

July 1, 2027

- » Monthly Premiums: Some adults must pay a premium to keep full coverage.
- » Transition Qualified Non-Citizens (from federal status changes) to restricted scope Medi-Cal.

July 1, 2026

Dental Benefits:
Full dental ends
for UIS adults and
only emergency
care is covered.

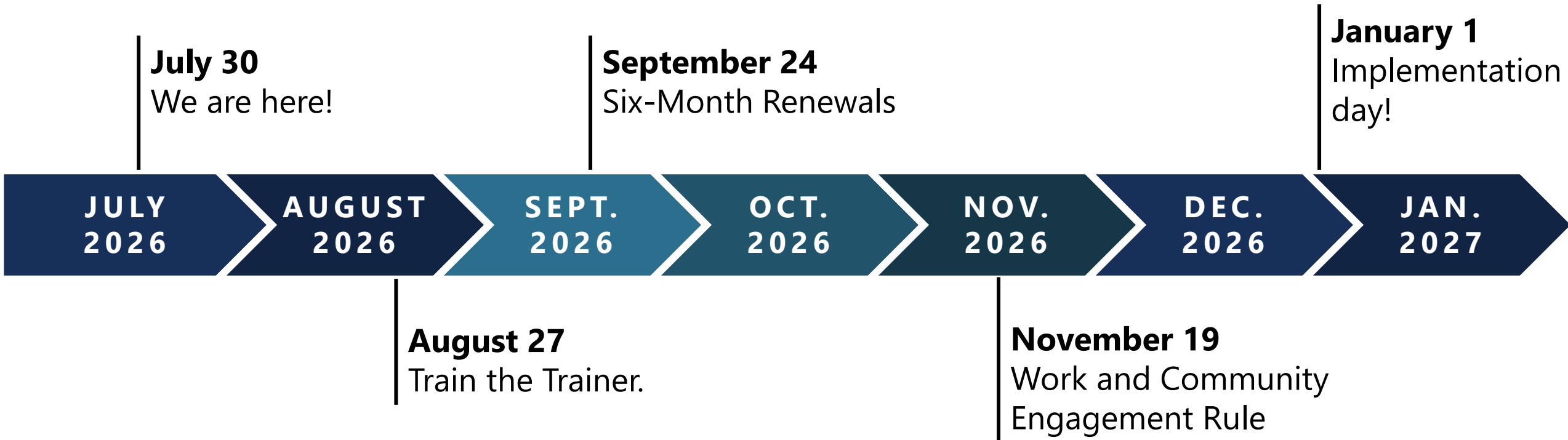
January 1, 2027

- » **UIS to FFS Transition takes effect.**
- » Work Requirements: Certain adults must report 80 hours monthly of work, school, or volunteering or income of \$580/monthly.
- » 6-month renewals.

Train-the-Trainer Overview

Va Tyndall, Health Program Specialist I, DHCS

Timeline



Train the Trainer

August 27, 2026

Train the Trainer

- » Topics:
 - » Six-Month Renewals.
 - » Work and Community Engagement Rules.
 - » Reduced Retroactive Medi-Cal Coverage.
 - » Amended Definition of Qualified Non-Citizen.
- » Purpose: Provide community partners with the information needed to inform prepare members for the coming changes as part of H.R. 1 to prevent loss of coverage.

September 24, 2026

November 19, 2026

Six-Month Renewals

August 27, 2026

September 24, 2026

November 19, 2026

Six-Month Renewals:

- » Identifying individuals subject to six-month renewals.
- » Individuals that will remain on 12-month renewal cycle.
- » When the transition will happen for current members.
- » Purpose: Provide community partners a greater understanding of this new rule and how it impacts new and existing members.

Work and Community Engagement Rule

August 27, 2026

Work and Community Engagement Rule (WCER)

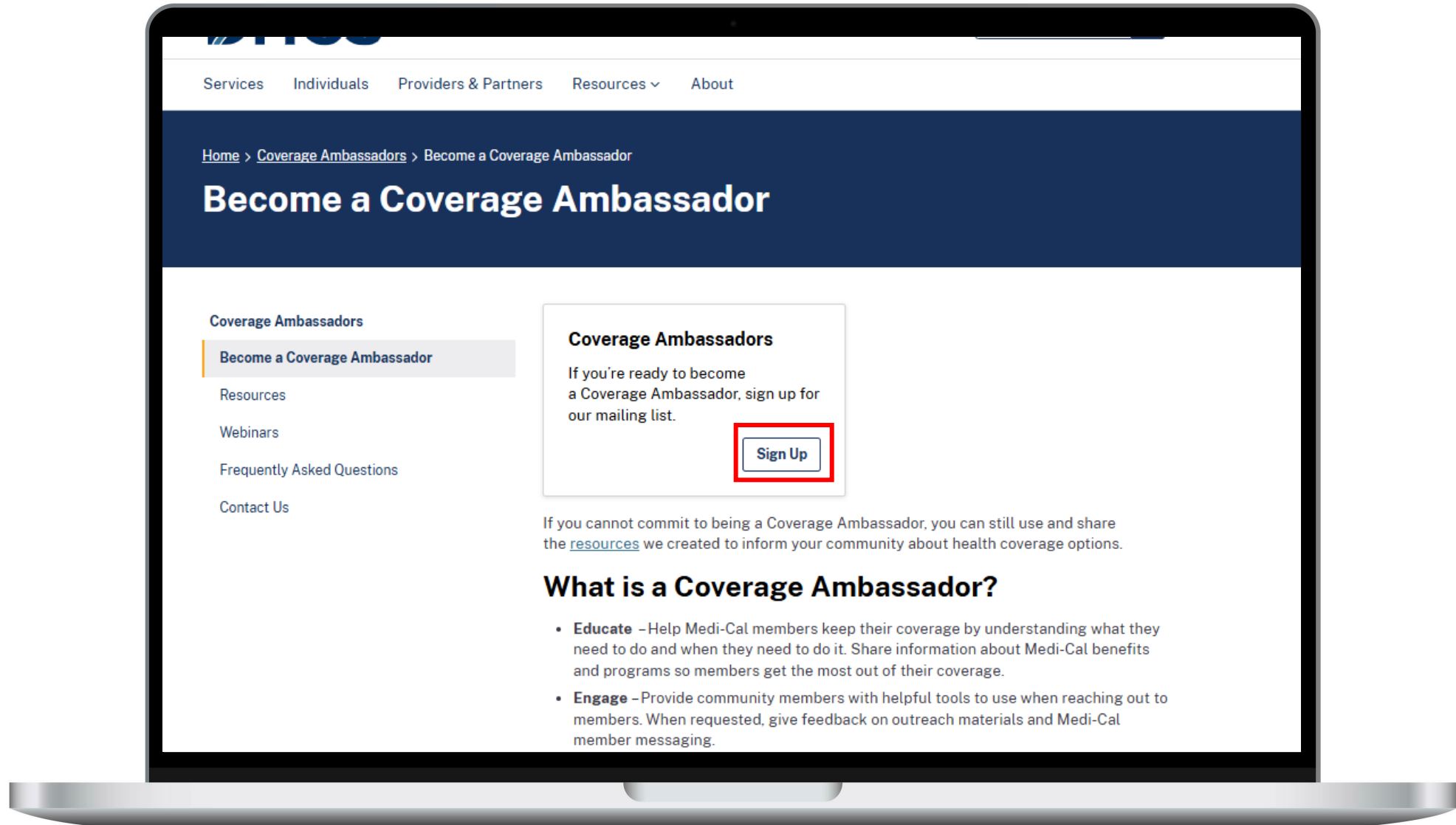
- » Identifying impacted individuals.
- » Individuals that may be excused from WCER.
- » Frequency of WCER assessments.
- » How to comply and meet WCER.

September 24, 2026

- » Purpose: Provide community partners with guidance on who this rule impacts, who can be excused, how to comply, and consequences if noncompliant.

November 19, 2026

Become a Coverage Ambassador



Resources



- » Medi-Cal Changes - [What Members Need to Know](#).
- » [Coverage Ambassador Program](#).
- » All County Welfare Director's Letters (ACWDLs) [25-30](#) and [25-31](#).



Questions?



Please take a moment
to answer our live poll.

2026 Coverage Ambassador Webinar Dates



- » August 27, 2026
- » September 24, 2026
- » November 19, 2026