



NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST

RELEASE DATE: SEPTEMBER 8, 2026

PROPOSED STATE PLAN AMENDMENT TO CHIP QUALIFIED NON-CITIZENS

This notice is to provide information of public interest about a proposed State Plan Amendment (SPA) by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). Proposed SPA #26-0041 describes that beginning October 1, 2026, Section 2107(e)(1) of the Social Security Act (the Act) incorporates the noncitizen restriction added by section 71109 of Public Law 119-21 (the "Working Families Tax Cut" (WFTC) / H.R. 1 legislation), restricting federal financial participation (FFP) for noncitizens. The proposed CHIP SPA is required to implement these federal updates. Consistent with these requirements, U.S. citizens, lawfully present children under the age of 21, and lawfully present pregnant individuals covered under the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) 214 option will continue to qualify for federally-funded Medi-Cal.

DHCS estimates that the annual aggregate Medi-Cal expenditures will not be affected as this SPA does not modify services or rates. This SPA modifies the definition of who qualifies for FFP for noncitizens but has no practical impact on current Medi-Cal members.

The effective date of the proposed SPA is October 1, 2026. All proposed SPAs are subject to approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Public Review and Comments

Upon submission to CMS, a copy of the proposed SPA #26-0041 will be published on: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/forms-laws-publications/laws-and-regulations/chip-pending-state-plan-amendments/>

If you would like to view the SPA in person once it becomes available, please visit your local county welfare department. You may also request a copy of proposed SPA #26-0041 using the mailing or email address listed below.



Written comments may be sent to the following address:

Department of Health Care Services
Medi-Cal Eligibility Division
Attn: Sarah Crow
P.O. Box 997413, MS 4607
Sacramento, California 95899-7417

Comments may also be emailed to PublicInput@dhcs.ca.gov. Please indicate SPA #26-0041 in the subject line or message.

A copy of submitted public comments to SPA #26-0041 may be requested in writing to the mailing or email address identified above.