EWC Applicant Eligibility

EWC Provider Orientation



Eligibility Criteria Overview

Age	 Cervical screening and diagnostic services: 21 and over Breast screening services: 40 and over for average risk Any age for high-risk individuals Breast diagnostic services: Symptomatic individuals of any age
Residency	Must have a physical California address or, if homeless, a location where the individual can be contacted and/or receive mail
Income	At or below 200% of federal poverty level. This is self-reported and no proof is required
Insurance	Must not have any private or public insurance coverage, OR If insured, must not be able to afford deductibles, copays, or share of cost



Age Criteria for Screening Services

- » No symptoms
 - Cervical cancer screening
 - Individuals with cervix age 21 and older
 - Breast cancer screening
 - Average risk individuals age 40 and older
 - High-risk individuals of any age



Age Criteria for Diagnostic Services for Symptomatic Individuals

Breast cancer symptoms: Individuals of any age

- » Symptoms may include (but not limited to)
 - Palpable mass or lumps in the breast
 - Changes in size or shape of the breast
 - Changes in skin texture or color (dimpling, puckering, redness, scaliness or thickening) of the breast or nipple skin
 - Nipple retraction or inversion
 - Axillary lymphadenopathy or swelling
 - Nipple discharge
 - Breast pain



Residency

Must have a physical California address or, if homeless, a location where a recipient can be contacted and/or receive mail



Eligibility Criteria

EWC Income Eligibility Guidelines Table 200 Percent of the 2025 HHS Poverty Guidelines by Family/Household Size Effective from April 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026.

Number of Persons in Family/Household	Monthly Gross Household Income	Annual Gross Household Income
1	\$2,608	\$31,300
2	\$3,525	\$42,300
3	\$4,442	\$53,300
4	\$5,358	\$64,300
5	\$6,275	\$75,300
6	\$7,192	\$86,300
7	\$8,108	\$97,300
8	\$9,025	\$108,300
For families/households with more than 8 persons, add:	\$917	\$ 11,000

See income criteria under EWC Program Information at Federal Income



Eligibility Criteria Income Eligibility Guidelines

An EWC Applicant (Family/Household) income must be at or below 200 percent of the Health and Human Services (HHS), Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG). A Family/Household is a group of two or more persons who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption and who live together.

Who should be counted?

- » An Applicant
- » And members of the applicants Family/Household (if applicable)

What is An EWC Applicant Gross Income?

- » An applicant must include the total amount of money that they and their Family/Household receives (before taxes and other deductions are applied)
- » Family/Household includes the total number of persons you considered above



Insurance Eligibility Guidelines

- » Uninsured
- » Underinsured
 - Limited scope Medi-Cal (pregnancy or emergency)
 - Medi-Cal with unmet share of cost obligations
 - Private insurance with co-payments or deductibles that cannot be met
 - Private insurance or other limited health insurance with benefit restrictions that exclude services available through
 EWC

EWC is the payor of last resort Inability to meet share of cost or copayment obligation is self-reported



Eligibility Criteria Frequently Asked Questions

What factors affect eligibility?

- Many individuals receive comprehensive coverage through Covered California or Medi-Cal expansion which provides breast and cervical cancer screening at no cost
 - https://www.coveredca.com/
 - https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/pages/applyformedi-cal.aspx
- Those who are unable to afford co-pays or share of cost for diagnostic procedures may use EWC as long as they meet all other eligibility criteria, including income

Does immigration status affect EWC eligibility?

 People with unsatisfactory immigration status are eligible for EWC. EWC immigration status is not part of eligibility criteria and therefore is not checked or verified at the time of enrollment.



Eligibility Criteria Frequently Asked Questions

Does EWC cover transgender individuals who meet program age and eligibility requirements?

Yes, EWC covers:

- Breast cancer screening and diagnostic services for cisgender women, transgender women who have taken or are taking hormones, transgender men who have not had a bilateral mastectomy
- Cervical cancer screening and diagnostic services for all individuals with a cervix
- Diagnostic breast services for individuals of any age who are experiencing symptoms suggestive of breast cancer



Eligibility Criteria Frequently Asked Questions

Can patients receive services from both Family Planning, Access, Care and Treatment (FPACT) and EWC?

- Yes, patients may be eligible for both programs
- Only one program can be billed for each service
- Cervical cancer screening and diagnostic services should be billed to FPACT because EWC is a payor of last resort.
- Only the breast cancer screening and diagnostic services would get billed to EWC as these services are not covered by FPACT.



Eligibility Criteria

EWC/FPACT Coverage Comparison

Service	EWC	FPACT
Breast Cancer Screening & Diagnostic Services	Covered for women 40+ and symptomatic individuals of any age	Not covered
Pap Tests	Covered from age 21+	Covered from age 21+
Primary HPV screening Pap/HPV Co-tests	Covered from age 30+	Covered from age 30+
Cervical Cancer Diagnostic Services	Covered but refer to BCCTP for LEEP	Covered, including LEEP

