

myMedi-Cal

How to Get the Health Care You Need





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Health Coverage in California



“My Medi-Cal: How to Get the Health Care You Need” tells Californians how to apply for Medi-Cal for no-cost or low-cost health insurance. You will learn what you must do to qualify. This guide also tells you how to use your Medi-Cal benefits. It tells you when to report changes. You should keep this guide and use it when you have questions about Medi-Cal.

California offers two ways to get health coverage. They are “Medi-Cal” and “Covered California.” Both programs use the same application.

What Is Medi-Cal?

Medi-Cal is California’s version of the Federal Medicaid program. Medi-Cal offers no-cost and low-cost health coverage to eligible people who live in California.

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) oversees the Medi-Cal program.

Your local county office manages most Medi-Cal cases for DHCS. You can reach your local county office online at www.benefitscal.com. You can also call your local county office.

To get the phone number for your local county office, go to:

<http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>

or call 1-800-541-5555
(TTY 1-800-430-7077)

The local county offices use many facts to determine what type of help you can get from Medi-Cal. They include:

- How much money you make
- Your age
- The age of any children on your application
- Whether you are pregnant, blind or disabled
- Whether you receive Medicare

Did you know?

It is possible for members of the same family to qualify for both Medi-Cal and Covered California. This is because the Medi-Cal eligibility rules are different for children and adults.

For example, coverage for a household of two parents and a child could look like this:



Parents—eligible for a Covered California health plan and receive tax credits and cost sharing to reduce their costs



Child—eligible for no-cost or low-cost Medi-Cal

Most people who apply for Medi-Cal can find out if they qualify based on their income. For some types of Medi-Cal, people may also need to give information about their assets and property. To learn more, see the Medi-Cal Program Comparison on page 5.

What Is Covered California?

Covered California is the State's health insurance marketplace. You can compare health plans from brand-name insurance companies or shop for a plan. If your income is too high for Medi-Cal, you may qualify to purchase health insurance through Covered California.

Covered California offers "premium assistance." It helps lower the cost of health care for individuals and families who enroll in a Covered California health plan and meet income rules. To qualify for premium assistance, your income must be under the Covered California program income limits.

Covered California has four levels of coverage to choose from: Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum. The benefits within each level are the same no matter which insurance company you choose. Your income and other facts will decide what program you qualify for.

To learn more about Covered California, go to www.coveredca.com or call **1-800-300-1506 (TTY 1-888-889-4500)**.

What Are the Requirements to Get Medi-Cal?

To qualify for Medi-Cal, you must live in the state of California and meet certain rules. You must give income and tax filing status information for everyone who is in your family and is on your tax return. You also may need to give information about your property.

You do not have to file taxes to qualify for Medi-Cal. For questions about tax filing, talk to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or a tax professional.

All individuals who apply for Medi-Cal must give their Social Security Number (SSN) if they have one. Every person who asks for Medi-Cal must give information about his or her immigration status. Immigration status given as part of the Medi-Cal application is confidential. The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services cannot use it for immigration enforcement unless you are committing fraud.

Adults age 19 or older may qualify for limited Medi-Cal benefits even if they do not have a Social Security Number (SSN) or cannot prove their immigration status. These benefits cover emergency, pregnancy-related and long-term care services.

You can apply for Medi-Cal for your child even if you do not qualify for full coverage.

In California, immigration status does not affect Medi-Cal benefits for children under age 19. Children may qualify for full Medi-Cal benefits, regardless of immigration status.

To learn more about Medi-Cal program rules, read the Medi-Cal Program Comparison on the next page.

Did you know?



If you qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), you automatically qualify for SSI-linked Medi-Cal.



Your local county office can help with some SSI Medi-Cal related problems. They will tell you if you need to contact a Social Security office to solve the problem.

Medi-Cal Program Comparison

MAGI

vs.

Non-MAGI

The Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) Medi-Cal method uses Federal tax rules to decide if you qualify based on how you file your taxes and your countable income.

Non-MAGI Medi-Cal includes many special programs. Persons who do not qualify for MAGI Medi-Cal may qualify for Non-MAGI Medi-Cal.



Who is eligible:



- Children under 19 years old
- Parents and caretakers of minor children
- Adults 19 through 64 years old
- Pregnant individuals

- Adult aged 65 years or older
- Child under 21
- Pregnant individual
- Parent/Caretaker Relative of an age-eligible child
- Adult or child in a long-term care facility
- Person who gets Medicare
- Blind or have a disability



No property limits.

Property rules:



- Must report and give proof of property such as vehicles, bank accounts, or rental homes
- Limits to the amount of property in the household

For both MAGI and Non-MAGI:

- The local county office will check your application information. You may need to give more proof.
- You must live in California.
- U.S. citizens or lawfully-present applicants must provide their SSN.
- You must apply for any income that you might qualify for such as unemployment benefits and State Disability Insurance.
- You must comply with medical support enforcement* which will:
 - Establish paternity for a child or children born outside of marriage.
 - Get medical support for a child or children with an absent parent.

**If you think you have a good reason not to follow this rule, call your local county office.*



How Do I Apply?

You can apply for Medi-Cal at any time of the year by mail, phone, fax, or email. You can also apply online or in person.

You can only apply for Covered California coverage on certain dates. To learn when you can apply, go to www.coveredca.com or call 1-800-300-1506 (TTY 1-888-889-4500).

Apply by mail:

You can apply for Medi-Cal and Covered California with the Single Streamlined Application. You can get the application in English and other languages at: <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>. Send completed applications to your local county office.

Find your local county office address at:

<http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>

You can also send applications to:
Covered California
P.O. Box 989725
West Sacramento, CA 95798-9725

Apply by phone, fax, or email:

Call your local county office. You can find the phone number on the web at <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal> or call Covered California at 1-800-300-1506.

Apply online at:

www.benefitscal.com

OR

www.coveredca.com

In person:

Find your local county office at <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>. You can get help applying.

You can also find a Covered California Certified Enrollment Counselor or Insurance Agent at www.CoveredCA.com/get-help/local/.

How Long Will it Take for My Application to Be Processed?

It may take up to 45 days to process your Medi-Cal application. If you apply for Medi-Cal based on disability, it may take up to 90 days. Your local county office or Covered California will send you an eligibility decision letter. The letter is called a "Notice of Action." If you do not get a letter within the 45 or 90 days, you may ask for a "State Fair Hearing." You may also ask for a hearing if you disagree with the decision. To learn more, read "Appeal and hearing rights" on page 19.

How Do I Use My Medi-Cal Benefits?



Medi-Cal covers most medically necessary care. This includes doctor and dentist appointments, prescription drugs, vision care, family planning, mental health care, and drug or alcohol treatment. Medi-Cal also covers transportation to these services. Read more in “Covered Benefits” on page 12.

Once you are approved, you can use your Medi-Cal benefits right away. New beneficiaries approved for Medi-Cal get a Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card (BIC). Your health care and dental providers need your BIC to provide services and to bill Medi-Cal. New beneficiaries and those asking for replacement cards get the new BIC design showing the California poppy. Both BIC designs shown here are valid:

Please contact your local county office if:

- You did not get your BIC
- Your BIC is lost
- Your BIC has wrong information
- Your BIC is stolen

Once you are sent a new BIC, you cannot use your old BIC.

You can get the phone number for your local county office at:

<http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>

or call:

1-800-541-5555 (TTY 1-800-430-7077)

How Do I See a Doctor?

Most people who are in Medi-Cal see a doctor through a Medi-Cal managed care plan. The plans are like the health plans people have with private insurance. Read more about managed care plans starting on the next page.

It may take a few weeks to assign your Medi-Cal managed care plan. When you first sign up for Medi-Cal, or if you have special situations, you may need to see the doctor through “Fee-for-Service Medi-Cal.”



What Is Fee-for-Service Medi-Cal?

Fee-for-Service is a way Medi-Cal pays doctors and other care providers. When you first sign up for Medi-Cal, you will get your benefits through Fee-for-Service Medi-Cal until you are enrolled in a managed care health plan.

Before you get medical or dental services, ask if the provider accepts Medi-Cal Fee-for-Service payments. The provider has a right to refuse to take Medi-Cal patients. If you do not tell the provider you have Medi-Cal, you may have to pay for the medical or dental service yourself.

How Are Medical or Dental Expenses Paid on Fee-for-Service Coverage?

Your provider uses your BIC to make sure you have Medi-Cal. Your provider will know if Medi-Cal will pay for a medical or dental treatment. Sometimes you may have to pay a “co-payment” for a treatment. You may have to pay \$1 each time you get a medical or dental service or prescribed medicine. You may have to pay \$5 if you go to a hospital emergency room when you do not need an emergency service. Those beneficiaries enrolled in a managed care plan do not have to pay co-payments.

There are some services Medi-Cal must approve before you may get them. See page 9 for more information.

How Do I Get Medical or Dental Services When I Have to Pay a Share of Cost (SOC)?

Some Non-MAGI Medi-Cal programs require you to pay a SOC. The Notice of Action you get after your Medi-Cal approval will tell you if you have a SOC. It will also tell the amount of the SOC. Your SOC is the amount you must pay or promise to pay to the

provider for health or dental care before Medi-Cal starts to pay.

The SOC amount resets each month. You only need to pay your SOC in months when you get health and/or dental care services. The SOC amount is owed to the health or dental care provider. It is not owed to Medi-Cal or the State. Providers may allow you to pay for the services later instead of all at once. In some counties, if you have a SOC you cannot enroll in a managed care plan.

If you pay for health care services from someone who does not accept Medi-Cal, you may count those payments toward your SOC. You must take the receipts from those health care expenses to your local county office. They will credit that amount to your SOC.

You may be able to lower a future month’s SOC if you have unpaid medical bills. Ask your local county office to see if your bills qualify.

What Is Medi-Cal Managed Care?

Medi-Cal Managed Care is an organized system to help you get high-quality care and stay healthy.

“ Medi-Cal Managed Care health plans help you find doctors, pharmacies and health education programs. ”

Most people must enroll in a managed care plan, unless you meet certain criteria or qualify for an exemption. Your health plan options depend on the county you live in. If your county has multiple health plans, you will need to choose the one that fits your and your family’s needs.

Every Medi-Cal managed care plan within each county has the same services. You can get the directory of managed care plans at <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>. You can choose a doctor who works with your plan to be your primary care physician. Or your plan can pick a primary care doctor on your behalf. You may choose any Medi-Cal

family planning provider of your choice, including one outside of your plan. Contact your managed care plan to learn more.

Managed care health plans also offer:

- Care coordination
- Referrals to specialists
- 24-hour nurse advice telephone services
- Customer service centers

Medi-Cal must approve some services before you may get them. The provider will know when you need prior approval. Most doctors' services and most clinic visits are not limited. They do not need approval. Talk with your doctor about your treatment plan and appointments.

How Do I Enroll in a Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan?

If you are in a county with more than one plan option, you must choose a health plan within 30 days of Medi-Cal approval. You will get an information packet in the mail. It will tell you the health plan(s) available in your county. The packet will also tell you how to enroll in the managed care plan you choose. If you do not choose a plan within 30 days of getting your Medi-Cal approval, the State will choose a plan for you.

Please wait for your health plan information packet in the mail.

“ If your county only has one health plan, the county chooses the plan for you. ”

If you live in **San Benito County**, there is only one health plan. You may enroll in this health plan. Or you may choose to stay in Fee-for-Service Medi-Cal.

If your county has more than one health plan, you will need to choose the one that fits your and your family's needs.

To see what plans are in your county, go to <https://www.healthcareoptions.dhcs.ca.gov/>

How Do I Disenroll, Ask for an Exemption from Mandatory Enrollment, or Change My Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan?

Most Medi-Cal beneficiaries must enroll in a Medi-Cal managed care plan. If you enrolled in a health care plan **by choice**, you may disenroll at any time. To disenroll, call Health Care Options at **1-800-430-4263**.

When your county has more than one plan, you can call Health Care Options if you want to change your managed care health plan.

If you are getting treatment now from a Fee-for-Service Medi-Cal provider, you may qualify for a temporary exemption from mandatory enrollment in a Medi-Cal managed care plan. The Fee-for-Service provider cannot be part of a Medi-Cal managed care plan in your county. The provider must be treating you for a complex condition that could get worse if you have to change providers.

Ask your provider if he or she is part of a Medi-Cal managed care plan in your county. If your provider is not part of a Medi-Cal managed care plan in your county, have your provider fill out a form with you to ask for an exemption from enrolling in a Medi-Cal managed care plan.

Your provider will need to sign the form, attach required proof, and mail or fax the form to Health Care Options. They will review it and decide whether you qualify for a temporary exemption from enrollment in a Medi-Cal managed care plan. You can find the form and instructions at <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>.

If you have questions, call **1-800-430-4263**.

What if I Have Other Health Insurance?

Even if you have other health coverage such as health insurance from your work, you may still qualify for Medi-Cal. If you qualify, Medi-Cal will cover allowable costs not paid by your primary insurance. Under federal

law, Medi-Cal beneficiaries' private health insurance must be billed first before billing Medi-Cal.

Medi-Cal beneficiaries are required by federal and state law to report private health insurance. To report or change private health insurance, go to <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal> or call **1-800-541-5555 (TTY 1-800-430-7077)**. Outside of California, call **1-916-636-1980**.

You also must report it to your local county office and your health care provider. If you fail to report any private health insurance coverage that you have, you are committing a misdemeanor crime.

Can I Get Medi-Cal Services When I Am Not in California?

When you travel outside California, take your BIC or proof that you are enrolled in a Medi-Cal health care plan. Medi-Cal can help in some cases, such as an emergency due to accident, injury or severe illness. Except for emergencies, your managed care plan must approve any out-of-state medical services before you get the service. If the provider will not accept Medicaid, you will have to pay medical costs for services you get outside of California. Remember: there may be many providers involved in emergency care. For example, the doctor you see may accept Medicaid but the x-ray department may not. Work with your managed care plan to limit what you have to pay. The provider should first make sure you qualify by calling **1-916-636-1960**.

If you live near the California state line and get medical service in the other state, some of these rules do not apply. To learn more, contact your Medi-Cal managed care plan.

“ You will not get Medi-Cal if you move out of California. You may apply for Medicaid in the state you move to. ”

If you are moving to a new county in California, you also need to tell the county you live in or the county you are moving to. This is to make sure you keep

getting Medi-Cal benefits. You should tell your local county office within 10 days of moving to a new county.

What Should I Do if I Can't Get an Appointment or Other Care I Need?

The Medi-Cal Managed Care Office of the Ombudsman helps solve problems from a neutral standpoint. They make sure you get all necessary required covered services.

The Office of the Ombudsman:

- Helps solve problems between Medi-Cal managed care members and managed care plans without taking sides
- Helps solve problems between Medi-Cal beneficiaries and county mental health plans without taking sides
- Investigates member complaints about managed care plans and county mental health plans
- Helps members with urgent enrollment and disenrollment problems
- Helps Medi-Cal beneficiaries access Medi-Cal specialty mental health services
- Offers information and referrals
- Identifies ways to make the Medi-Cal managed care program more effective
- Educates members on how to navigate the Medi-Cal managed care and specialty mental health system

To learn more about the Office of the Ombudsman, you can call:

1-888-452-8609

or go to:

<http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>

How Does Medi-Cal Work if I also Have Medicare?

Many people who are 65 or older or who have disabilities qualify for both Medi-Cal and Medicare. If you qualify for both programs, you will get most of your medical services and prescription drugs through Medicare. Medi-Cal provides long-term services and supports such as nursing home care and home and community-based services.

“ **Medi-Cal covers some benefits that Medicare does not cover.** ”

Medi-Cal may also pay your Medicare premiums.

What Is the Medicare Premium Payment Buy-In Program?

The Medicare Premium Payment Program, also called Medicare Buy-In, allows Medi-Cal to pay Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) and/or Part B (Medical Insurance) premiums for Medi-Cal members and others who qualify for certain Medi-Cal programs.

What Is the Medicare Savings Program (MSP)?

Medicare Savings Programs may pay Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B deductibles, co-insurance and co-payments if you meet certain conditions. When you apply for Medi-Cal, your county will evaluate you for this program. Some people who do not qualify for full-scope Medi-Cal benefits may still qualify for MSP.

If I Use a Medicare Provider, Will I Have to Pay Medicare Co-Insurance?

No. If eligible to MSP you will not have to pay any co-insurance or deductibles. If you get a bill from your Medicare provider, contact your Medi-Cal managed care plan or call **1-800-MEDICARE**.

If I Have Medicare, Do I Have to Use Doctors and Other Providers Who Take Medi-Cal?

No. You can use any Medicare provider, even if that provider doesn't take Medi-Cal or isn't part of your Medi-Cal managed care plan. Some Medicare providers may not accept you as a patient.

Did you know?



Medi-Cal provides breastfeeding education as part of Maternity and Newborn Care.



You are eligible for routine eye exams once every 24 months.



To learn more about what's offered, visit:
<http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>



Medi-Cal Covered Benefits

Medi-Cal offers a full set of benefits called Essential Health Benefits. To find out if a service is covered, ask your doctor or health plan. Essential Health Benefits include:

- Outpatient services, such as a checkup at a doctor's office
- Emergency services
- Hospitalization
- Maternity and newborn care
- Mental health services
- Substance use disorder services, such as treatment for drug or alcohol addiction
- Prescription drugs
- Laboratory services, such as blood tests
- Programs such as physical therapy (called rehabilitative and habilitative services) and medical supplies and devices such as wheelchairs and oxygen tanks
- Preventive and wellness services
- Chronic disease management
- Children's (pediatric) services, including oral and vision care
- In-home care and other long-term services and supports

Substance Use Disorder Program

Medi-Cal offers inpatient and outpatient settings for drug or alcohol abuse treatment. This is also called substance use disorder treatment. The setting depends on the types of treatment you need. Services include:

- Outpatient Drug Free Treatment (group and/or individual counseling)
- Intensive Outpatient Treatment (group counseling services provided at least three hours per day, three days per week)
- Residential Treatment (rehabilitation services provided while living on the premises)
- Narcotic Replacement Therapy (such as methadone)

Some counties offer more treatment and recovery services. Tell your doctors about your condition so they can refer you to the right treatment. You may also refer yourself to your nearest local treatment agency. Or call the Substance Use Disorder non-emergency treatment referral line at **1-800-879-2772**.

Medi-Cal Dental Program

Dental health is an important part of overall health. The Medi-Cal Dental Program covers many services to keep your teeth healthy. You can get dental benefits as soon as you are approved for Medi-Cal.

You can see the dental benefits and other resources at <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>. Or, you can call **1-800-322-6384 (TTY 1-800-735-2922)** Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

How Do I Get Medi-Cal Dental Services?

The Medi-Cal Dental Program gives service in two ways. One is Fee-for-Service Dental and you can get it throughout California. Fee-for-Service Dental is the same as Fee-for-Service Medi-Cal. Before you get dental services, you must show your BIC to the dental provider and make sure the provider takes Fee-for-Service Dental.

The other way Medi-Cal gives dental services is through Dental Managed Care (DMC). DMC is only offered in Los Angeles County and Sacramento County. DMC plans cover the same dental services as Fee-for-Service Dental. DHCS uses three managed care plans in Sacramento County. DHCS also contracts with three prepaid health plans in Los Angeles County. These plans provide dental services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

If you live in Sacramento County, you must enroll in DMC. In some cases, you may qualify for an exemption from enrolling in DMC.

To learn more, go to Health Care Options at <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>.

In Los Angeles County, you can stay in Fee-for-Service Dental or you can choose the DMC program. To choose or change your dental plan, call Health Care Options.

Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT)

If you or your child are under 21 years old, Medi-Cal covers preventive services, such as regular health check-ups and screenings. Regular checkups and screenings look for any problems with your medical, dental, vision, hearing, and mental health, and any substance use disorders. You can also get vaccinations to keep you healthy. Medi-Cal covers screening services any time there is a need for them, even if it is not during your regular check-up. All of these services are at no cost to you.

Checkups and screenings are important to help your health care provider identify problems early. When a problem is found during a check-up or screening, Medi-Cal covers the services needed to fix or improve any physical or mental health condition or illness. You can get the diagnostic and treatment services your doctor, other health care provider, dentist, county Child Health and Disability Prevention program (CHDP), or county mental or behavioral health provider says you need to get better. EPSDT covers these services at no cost to you.

Your provider will also tell you when to come back for the next health check-up, screening, or medical appointment. If you have questions about scheduling a medical visit or how to get help with transportation to the medical visit, Medi-Cal can help. Call your Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan (MCP). If you are not in a MCP, you can call your doctor or other provider or visit <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal> for transportation assistance.

For more information about EPSDT you may call **1-800-541-5555**, go to <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>, contact your county CHDP Program, or your MCP. To learn more about EPSDT Specialty Mental Health or Substance Use Disorder services, contact your county mental or behavioral health department.

Transportation Services

Medi-Cal can help with rides to medical, mental health, substance use, or dental appointments when those appointments are covered by Medi-Cal. The rides can be either nonmedical transportation (NMT) or non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT). You can also use NMT if you need to pick up prescriptions or medical supplies or equipment.

If you can travel by car, bus, train, or taxi, but do not have a ride to your appointment, NMT can be arranged.

If you are enrolled in a health plan, call your Member Services for information on how to get NMT services.

If you have Fee-for-Service, you can do the following:

- Call your county Medi-Cal office to see if they can help you get an NMT ride.
- To set up a ride, you should first call your Fee-for-Service medical provider and ask about a transportation provider in your area. Or, you can call one of the approved NMT providers in your area listed at <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>.

If you need a special, medical vehicle to get to your appointment, let your health care provider know. If you are in a health plan, you can also contact your plan to set up your transportation. If you are in Fee-for-Service, call your health care provider. The plan or provider can order NEMT such as a wheelchair van, a litter van, an ambulance, or air transport.

Be sure to ask for a ride as soon as you can before an appointment. If you have frequent appointments, your health care provider or health plan can request transportation to cover future appointments.

Go to <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal> for more information about rides arranged by approved NMT providers.

Specialty Mental Health Services

If you have mental illness or emotional needs that your regular doctor cannot treat, specialty mental health services are available. A Mental Health Plan (MHP) provides specialty mental health services. Each county has an MHP.

Specialty mental health services may include, but are not limited to, individual and group therapy, medication services, crisis services, case management, residential and hospital services, and specialized services to help children and youth.

To find out more about specialty mental health services, or to get these services, call your county MHP. Your MHP will determine if you qualify for specialty mental health services. You can get the MHP's telephone number from the Office of the Ombudsman at **1-888-452-8609** or go to <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>.

Other Health Programs & Services



California offers other programs for your medical needs. You can apply for some through the same local county office that handles Medi-Cal.

From Your Local County Office

You can ask for the programs below from the same local county office where you apply for Medi-Cal. You can get the phone number for your county at <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal> or call **1-800-541-5555 (TTY 1-800-430-7077)**.

Former Foster Youth

If you were in foster care on your 18th birthday or later, you may qualify for free Medi-Cal. Coverage may last until your 26th birthday. Income does not matter. You do not need to fill out a full Medi-Cal application or give income or tax information when you apply. For coverage right away, contact your local county office.

Confidential Medical Services

You can apply for confidential services if you are under age 21. To qualify, you must be:

- Unmarried and living with your parents, or
- Your parent must be financially responsible for you, such as college students

You do not need parental consent to apply for or get coverage. Services include family planning and pregnancy care, and treatment for drug or alcohol abuse, sexually transmitted diseases, sexual assault, and mental health.

250% Working Disabled Program

The Working Disabled Program gives Medi-Cal to adults with disabilities who have higher income than most Medi-Cal recipients. If you have earned disability income through Social Security or your former job, you may qualify. The program requires a low monthly premium, ranging from \$20 to \$250 depending on your income. To qualify, you must:

- Meet the Social Security definition of disability, have gotten disability income, and now be earning some money through work
- Meet program income rules for earned and unearned income
- Meet other program rules

Medi-Cal Access Program (MCAP)

MCAP gives low-cost comprehensive health insurance coverage to pregnant individuals. MCAP has no copayments or deductibles for its covered services. The total cost for MCAP is 1.5% of your Modified Adjusted Gross Income. For example, if your income is \$50,000 per year, your cost would be \$750 for coverage. You can pay all at once or in monthly installments over 12 months. If you are pregnant and in Covered California coverage, you may be able to switch to MCAP. Babies born to individuals enrolled in MCAP qualify for the Medi-Cal Access Infant Program or for Medi-Cal. To qualify for MCAP, you must be:

- A California resident
- Not enrolled in no-cost Medi-Cal or Medicare Part A and Part B at time of application

- Not covered by any other health insurance plan
- Within the program income guidelines

To learn more about MCAP, go to <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal> or call **1-800-433-2611**.

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Program

IHSS helps pay for services so you can remain safely in your own home. If you qualify for Medi-Cal, you may also qualify for IHSS. If you do not qualify for Medi-Cal, you may still qualify for IHSS if you meet other eligibility criteria. If you have Medi-Cal with no SOC, it will pay for all your IHSS services. If you have Medi-Cal with a SOC, you must meet your Medi-Cal SOC before any IHSS services are paid. To qualify, you must be at least **one** of the following:

- Age 65 and older
- Blind
- Disabled (including disabled children)
- Have a chronic, disabling condition that causes functional impairment expected to last at least 12 consecutive months or expected to result in death within 12 months

IHSS can authorize services such as:

- Domestic services such as washing kitchen counters or cleaning the bathroom
- Preparation of meals
- Laundry
- Shopping for food
- Personal care services
- Accompaniment to medical appointments
- Protective supervision for people who are mentally ill or mentally impaired and cannot remain safely in their home without supervision
- Paramedical services

To learn more, go to <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/In-Home-Supportive-Services>.

Other State Health Services

The programs below have a different application process from Medi-Cal's. You can apply or learn more about the program using the contact information listed.

Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program

The Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program gives cancer treatment and related services to low-income California residents who qualify. They must be screened and/or enrolled by the Cancer Detection Program, Every Woman Counts, or by the Family Planning, Access, Care and Treatment programs. To qualify, you must have income under the limit and need treatment for breast or cervical cancer. To learn more, call **1-800-824-0088** or email BCCTP@dhcs.ca.gov.

Home and Community-Based Services

Medi-Cal allows certain eligible seniors and persons with disabilities to get treatment at home or in a community setting instead of in a nursing home or other institution. Home and Community-Based Services include but are not limited to case management (supports and service coordination), adult day health services, habilitation (day and residential), homemaker, home health aide, nutritional services, nursing services, personal care, and respite care. You must qualify for full-scope Medi-Cal and meet all program rules. To learn more, call DHCS, Integrated Systems of Care Division at **1-916-552-9105**.

California Children's Services (CCS) Program

The CCS program gives diagnostic and treatment services, medical case management, and physical and occupational therapy services to children under age 21 who have CCS-eligible medical conditions. CCS-eligible medical conditions are those that are physically disabling or require medical, surgical or

rehabilitative services. Services authorized by the CCS program to treat a Medi-Cal enrolled child's CCS-eligible medical condition are not services that most health plan's cover. The Medi-Cal health plan still provides primary care and preventive health services not related to the CCS-eligible medical condition.

To apply for CCS, contact your local county CCS office. To learn more, go to <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal> or call **1-916-552-9105**.

Genetically Handicapped Person's Program (GHPP)

GHPP gives medical and administrative case management and pays for medically-necessary services for persons who live in California, are over age 21, and have GHPP-eligible medical conditions. GHPP-eligible conditions are inherited conditions like hemophilia, cystic fibrosis, Phenylketonuria, and sickle cell disease that have major health effects. GHPP uses a system of Special Care Centers (SCCs). SCCs give comprehensive, coordinated health care to clients with specific eligible conditions. If the service is not in the health plan's covered benefits, GHPP authorizes yearly SCC evaluations for Medi-Cal enrolled adults with a GHPP-eligible medical condition.

To apply for GHPP, complete an application. Fax it to **1-800-440-5318**. To learn more, call **1-916-552-9105** or go to <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>.

Retroactive Medi-Cal

If you have unpaid medical or dental bills when you apply for Medi-Cal, you can ask for retroactive Medi-Cal. Retroactive Medi-Cal may help pay medical or dental bills in any of the three months before the application date.

For example, if you applied for Medi-Cal in April, you may be able to get help with bills for medical or dental services you got in January, February and March.

To get retroactive Medi-Cal you must:

- Qualify for Medi-Cal in the month you got the medical services
- Have received medical or dental services that Medi-Cal covers
- Ask for it within one year of the month in which you received the covered services
- You must contact your local county office to request retroactive Medi-Cal

For example, if you were treated for a broken arm in January 2017 and applied for Medi-Cal in April 2017, you would have to request retroactive Medi-Cal by no later than January 2018 to pay the medical bills.

If you already paid for medical or dental service you got during the three months of the retroactive period, Medi-Cal may also help you get paid back. You must submit your claim within one year of the date of service, or within 90 days after approval of your Medi-Cal eligibility, whichever is longer.

To file a claim, you must call or write to:

Department of Health Care Services
Beneficiary Services
P.O. Box 138008
Sacramento, CA 95813-8008
1-916-403-2007 (TTY 1-916-635-6491)

For Medical, Mental Health, Substance Use Disorder, and In-Home Support Services Claims

Medi-Cal Dental Beneficiary Services
P.O. Box 526026
Sacramento, CA 95852-6026
1-916-403-2007 (TTY 1-916-635-6491)

For Dental Claims.



Updating & Renewing My Medi-Cal

You must report any household changes within 10 days to your local county office. You can report changes in person, online, by phone, email or fax. Changes can affect your Medi-Cal eligibility.

You must report if you:

- Get married or divorced
- Have a child, adopt or place a child for adoption
- Have a change in income or property (if applicable)
- Get any other health coverage including through a job or a program such as Medicare
- Move, or have a change in who is living in your home
- Have a change in disability status
- Have a change in tax filing status, including change in tax dependents
- Have a change in citizenship or immigration status
- Are incarcerated (jail, prison, etc.) or released from incarceration
- Have a change in American Indian or Alaska Native status or change your tribal status
- Change your name, date of birth or SSN
- Have any other changes that may affect your income or household size

What if I Move to Another County in California?

If you move to another California county, you can have your Medi-Cal case moved to the new county. This is called an Inter-County Transfer (ICT). You must report your change of address to either county within

10 days from the change. You can report your change of address online, in person, by phone, email, or fax. Your managed care plan coverage in your old county will end on the last day of the month. You will need to enroll in a managed care plan in your new county.

When you leave the county temporarily, your Medi-Cal will not transfer. This includes a child going to college or when you take care of a sick relative. Contact your local county office to report the household member's temporary address change to a new county. The local county office will update the address so the household member can enroll in a health plan in the new county.

How Do I Renew My Medi-Cal Coverage?

To keep your Medi-Cal benefits, you must renew at least once a year. If your local county office cannot renew your Medi-Cal coverage using electronic sources, they will send you a renewal form. You will need to give information that is new or has changed. You will also need to give your most current information. You can return your information online, in person, or by phone or other electronic means if available in your county. If you mail or return your renewal form in person, it must be signed.

If you do not give the needed information by the due date, your Medi-Cal benefits will end. Your local county office will send you a Notice of Action in the mail. You have 90 days to give your local county office all the missing information without having to re-apply. If you give the missing information within 90 days and still qualify for Medi-Cal, your local county office will reinstate your Medi-Cal with no gaps in coverage.

Rights & Responsibilities



When you apply for Medi-Cal, you will get a list of your rights and responsibilities. This includes the requirement to report changes in address or income, or if someone is pregnant or gave birth. You can call your local county office or find the most up-to-date list of your rights and responsibilities online at:

<http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>

Appeal and Hearing Rights

Health Care Services and Benefits

You have the right to ask for an appeal if you disagree with the denial of a health care service or benefit.

If you are in a Medi-Cal managed care plan and you get a Notice of Action letter telling you that a health care service or benefit is denied, you have the right to ask for an appeal.

You must file an appeal with your plan within 60 days of the date on the Notice of Action. After you file your appeal, the plan will send you a decision within 30 days. If you do not get a decision within 30 days or are not happy with the plan's decision, you can then ask for a State Fair Hearing. A judge will review your case.

You must first file an appeal with your plan before you can ask for a State Fair Hearing. You must ask for a State Fair Hearing within 120 days of the date of the plan's written appeal decision.

If you are in Fee-for-Service Medi-Cal and you get a Notice of Action letter telling you that a health service

or benefit has been denied, you have the right to ask for a State Fair Hearing right away. You must ask for a State Fair Hearing within 90 days of the date on the Notice of Action.

You also have the right to ask for a State Fair Hearing if you disagree with what is happening with your Medi-Cal application or eligibility. This can be when:

- You do not agree with a county or State action on your Medi-Cal application
- The county does not give you a decision about your Medi-Cal application within 45 or 90 days
- Your Medi-Cal eligibility or Share of Cost changes

Eligibility Decisions

If you get a Notice of Action letter telling you about an eligibility decision that you disagree with, you can talk to your county eligibility worker and/or ask for a State Fair Hearing. If you cannot solve your disagreement through the county, you must request a State Fair Hearing within 90 days of the date on the Notice of Action. You can ask for a State Fair Hearing by contacting your local county office. You can also call or write to:

California Department of Social Services
Public Inquiry and Response
PO Box 944243, M.S. 9-17-37
Sacramento, CA 94244-2430
1-800-743-8525, (TTY 1-800-952-8349)

You can also file a hearing request online at:

<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/>

If you believe you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation, you can make a complaint to the DHCS Office of Civil Rights.

You can learn how to make a discrimination complaint in “Federally Required Notice Informing Individuals About Nondiscrimination and Accessibility Requirements” on page 21.

About State Fair Hearings

The State will tell you it got your hearing request. You will get a notice of the time, date and place of your hearing. A hearing representative will review your case and try to resolve your issue. If the county/State offers you an agreement to solve your issue, you will get it in writing.

You can give permission in writing for a friend, family member or advocate to help you at the hearing. If you cannot fully solve your issue with the county or State, you or your representative must attend the State Fair Hearing. Your hearing can be in person or by phone. A judge who does not work for the county or Medi-Cal program will hear your case.

You have the right to free language help. List your language on your hearing request. Or tell the hearing representative you would like a free interpreter. You cannot use family or friends to interpret for you at the hearing.

If you have a disability and need reasonable accommodations to fully take part in the Fair Hearing process, you may call 1-800-743-8525 (TTY 1-800-952-8349). You can also send an email to SHDCSU@DSS.ca.gov.

To get help with your hearing, you can ask for a legal aid referral. You may get free legal help at your local legal aid or welfare rights office.

Third Party Liability

If you suffer an injury, you may use your Medi-Cal to get medical services. If you file an insurance claim or sue someone for damages because of your injury, you must notify the Medi-Cal Personal Injury (PI) program within 30 days of filing your claim or action. You must tell both your local county office and the PI program.

To notify the Medi-Cal PI program, please complete the “Personal Injury Notification (New Case)” form. You can find it on the website below. If you do not have internet access, please ask your attorney or insurance company representative to notify the Medi-Cal PI program on your behalf. You can find notification and update forms at: <http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>.

If you hire a lawyer to represent you for your claim or lawsuit, your lawyer is responsible for notifying the Medi-Cal PI program and giving a letter of authorization. This authorization allows Medi-Cal staff to contact your lawyer and discuss your personal injury case. Medi-Cal does not provide representation or attorney referrals. Staff can offer information that can help the lawyer through the process.

Estate Recovery

The Medi-Cal program must seek repayment from the estates of certain Medi-Cal members who have died. Repayment is limited to payments made, including managed care premiums, for nursing facility services, home and community based services, and related hospital and prescription drug services when the beneficiary:

- Was an inpatient in a nursing facility, or
- Received home and community based services on or after his or her 55th birthday

If a deceased member does not leave an estate subject to probate or owns nothing when they die, nothing will be owed.

To learn more, go to <http://dhcs.ca.gov/er> or call 1-916-650-0590

Medi-Cal Fraud

Beneficiary responsibilities

A beneficiary must always present proof of Medi-Cal coverage to providers before getting services. If you are getting treatment from more than one doctor or dentist, you should tell each doctor or dentist about the other doctor or dentist providing your care.

It is your responsibility not to abuse or improperly use your Medi-Cal benefits. It is a **crime** to:

- Let other people use your Medi-Cal benefits
- Get drugs through false statements to a provider
- Sell or lend your BIC to any person or give your BIC to anyone other than your service providers as required under Medi-Cal guidelines

Misuse of BIC/Medi-Cal benefits is a crime. It could result in negative actions to your case or criminal prosecution. If you suspect Medi-Cal fraud, waste or abuse, make a confidential report by calling 1-800-822-6222.

Federally Required Notice Informing Individuals About Nondiscrimination and Accessibility Requirements

DHCS complies with applicable federal and state civil rights laws. DHCS does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, genetic

information, marital status, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation. DHCS does not unlawfully exclude people or treat them differently because of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation. DHCS:

- Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with DHCS, such as:
 - Qualified sign language interpreters
 - Written information in other formats such as large print, audio, accessible electronic formats and other formats
- Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
 - Qualified interpreters
 - Information written in other languages

If you need these services, call the Office of Civil Rights, at **1-916-440-7370, (Ext. 711, California State Relay)** or email CivilRights@dhcs.ca.gov.

If you believe DHCS has failed to provide these services or you have been discriminated against in another way on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation, you can file a grievance at:

Office of Civil Rights

PO Box 997413, MS 0009

Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

1-916-440-7370, (Ext. 711, CA State Relay)

Email: CivilRights@dhcs.ca.gov

If you need help filing a grievance, the Office of Civil Rights can help you. Complaint forms are available at:

http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Pages/Language_Access.aspx

Important Resources



ONLINE

Main Medi-Cal Site:
<http://dhcs.ca.gov/mymedi-cal>

Get the myMedi-Cal smartphone app to help you learn more about coverage, find local help, and more!



PHONE NUMBERS

Medi-Cal Members & Providers:
1-800-541-5555

Medi-Cal Managed Care:
1-800-430-4263
(TTY 1-800-430-7077)

Office of the Ombudsman:
1-888-452-8609

State Fair Hearing:
1-800-743-8525
(TTY 1-800-952-8349)

Covered California:
1-800-300-1506

Medi-Cal Dental Program:
1-800-322-6384

If you believe you have been discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex, you can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights. You can file electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf> or you can file by mail or phone at:

**U.S. Department of Health
and Human Services**
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 509F, HHH Building
Washington, D.C. 20201
1-800-368-1019, TTY 1-800-537-7697

You can get a complaint form at:

<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>

This document meets Section 508 accessibility standards. This publication can also be made available in Braille, large print, and other electronic formats in response to a reasonable accommodation request made by a qualified individual with a disability. To ask for a copy of this publication in another format, call the Medi-Cal Eligibility Division at **1-916-552-9200 (TTY 1-800-735-2929)** or email MCED@dhcs.ca.gov.

Language Assistance

Attention: If you speak English, you can call 1-800-541-5555 (TDD 1-800-430-7077) for free help in your language. Call your local county office for eligibility issues or questions. (English)

تنبيه: إذا كنت تتحدث العربية، فيمكنك الاتصال برقم 1-800-541-5555 (TDD 1-800-430-7077) للمساعدة المجانية بلغتك. اتصل بمكتب المقاطعة المحلي للمشكلات أو الأسئلة المتعلقة بالتأهل. (Arabic)

Ուշադրություն: Եթե Դուք հայերեն եք խոսում, կարող եք զանգահարել 1-800-541-5555 (TDD 1-800-430-7077) և անվճար օգնություն ստանալ Ձեր լեզվով: Իրավասության հետ կապված խնդիրների կամ հարցերի դեպքում զանգահարեք Ձեր շրջանային գրասենյակ: (Armenian)

សម្គាល់៖ ប្រសិនបើអ្នកនិយាយភាសាខ្មែរ
អ្នកអាចទូរសព្ទទៅលេខ 1-800-541-5555
(TDD 1-800-430-7077) សម្រាប់ជំនួយដោយឥតគិតថ្លៃ
ជាភាសារបស់អ្នក។ ទូរសព្ទទៅកាន់ការិយាល័យខោនធីក្នុងមូ
លដ្ឋានរបស់អ្នកសម្រាប់បញ្ជាក់ទាំងនឹងសិទ្ធិទទួលបានសេវា
ប្រក្រតី ឯករណ៍មានសំណួរណាមួយ។ (Cambodian)

注意：如果您使用中文，請撥打1-800-541-5555
(TDD 1-800-430-7077) 免費獲得以您所用語言提
供的協助。關於資格的爭議或問題請致電您所在縣
的辦事處。(Chinese)

توجه: اگر به زبان فارسی صحبت می کنید، می توانید برای
دریافت کمک رایگان به زبان خود با شماره
1-800-541-5555 (TDD 1-800-430-7077) تماس
بگیرید. برای مسائل مربوط به صلاحیت یا سوالات، با دفتر محلی
شهرستان خود تماس بگیرید. (Farsi)

ध्यान दें: यदि आप हिंदी भाषी हैं, तो आप अपनी
भाषा में निःशुल्क सहायता के लिए
1-800-541-5555 (TDD 1-800-430-7077) पर कॉल
कर सकते हैं। योग्यता संबंधी समस्याओं या प्रश्नों
के लिए अपने स्थानीय काउंटी कार्यालय को कॉल
करें। (Hindi)

Lus Ceeb Toom: Yog tias koj hais lus Hmoob, koj tuaj
yeem hu rau tus xov tooj 1-800-541-5555 (TDD
1-800-430-7077) kom tau kev pab koj dawb ua koj
hom lus. Hu rau lub chaw lis dej num hauv koj lub
nroog txog cov teeb meem kev tsim nyog tau txais kev
pab los yog cov lus nug. (Hmong)

注意：ご希望により、1-800-541-5555
(TDD 1-800-430-7077) へお電話いただければ日
本語で対応いたします。有資格問題または質問など
は、地域の代理店までお電話ください。(Japanese)

주의: 한국어를 말하면, 1-800-541-5555
(TDD 1-800-430-7077) 번으로 무료로 도움을
받을 수 있습니다. 적격 문제 또는 질문은 해당
지역 카운티 사무소에 문의하십시오. (Korean)

ເຊີນຊາບ: ຖ້າທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາລາວ, ທ່ານສາມາດໂທຫາເບີ
1-800-541-5555 (TDD 1-800-430-7077) ເພື່ອຂໍຄວາ
ມຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອຟຣີໃນພາສາຂອງທ່ານ. ໂທຫາຫ້ອງການເຂດໃນທ້ອງຖິ່
ນຂອງທ່ານເພື່ອສອບຖາມກ່ຽວກັບເງື່ອນໄຂໃນການມີສິດໄດ້ຮັບ ຫຼື
ມີຄໍາຖາມອື່ນໆ. (Laotian)

Waac-mbung: Se gorngv meih gongv mien waac
nor, maaiv zuqc cuotv nyaanh gunv korh waac mingh
taux 1-800-541-5555 (TDD 1-800-430-7077) yiem

wuov maaih mienh tengx faan waac bun meih hiuv duv.
Gunv korh waac taux meih nyei kaau dih nyei mienh, Se
gorngv meih oix hiuv taux, meih maaih fai maaiv maaiv
ndaam-dorng leiz puix duqv ziqv nyei buanc. (Mien)

ਧਿਆਨ ਦਿਓ: ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੋਲਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ
ਵਿੱਚ ਮੁਫਤ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਪਾਉਣ ਲਈ 1-800-541-5555 (TDD
1-800-430-7077) 'ਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ। ਪਾਤਰਤਾ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ
ਵਿਵਾਦਾਂ ਜਾਂ ਸਵਾਲਾਂ ਦੇ ਲਈ ਆਪਣੇ ਸਥਾਨਕ ਕਾਉਂਟੀ ਦਫਤਰ ਨੂੰ
ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ। (Punjabi)

Внимание: Если Вы говорите по-русски, Вы можете
позвонить по номеру 1-800-541-5555
(TDD 1-800-430-7077), чтобы получить бесплатную
помощь на Вашем языке. Позвоните в Ваш местный
окружной офис по вопросам или проблемам,
связанным с соответствием требованиям.
(Russian)

Atención: Si usted habla español puede llamar al
1-800-541-5555 (TDD 1-800-430-7077) para
obtener ayuda gratuita en su idioma. Llame a la oficina
local de su condado si tiene algún problema o alguna
pregunta sobre elegibilidad. (Spanish)

Atensiyon: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari
kang tumawag sa 1-800-541-5555
(TDD 1-800-430-7077) para sa libreng tulong sa
wika mo. Tawagan ang lokal mong tanggapan sa
county para sa mga isyu sa pagiging narapat o mga
tanong. (Tagalog)

โปรดทราบ: หากท่านพูดภาษาไทย ท่านสามารถโทรศัพท์
ไปที่เบอร์ 1-800-541-5555 (TDD 1-800-430-7077)
เพื่อรับความช่วยเหลือในภาษาของท่านโดยไม่เสียค่าใช้จ่าย
กรุณาโทรศัพท์หาสำนักงานประจำท้องถิ่นของท่านเพื่อ
สอบถามเกี่ยวกับสิทธิ์ของท่าน (Thai)

Увага: Якщо ви розмовляєте українською, ви
можете зателефонувати за номером 1-800-541-5555
(TDD 1-800-430-7077), щоб отримати безкоштовну
допомогу Вашою мовою. З питань стосовно права
на пільги та іншої інформації, телефонуйте до
вашого місцевого окружного офісу. (Ukrainian)

Lưu ý: Nếu quý vị nói tiếng Việt, quý vị có thể gọi
1-800-541-5555 (TDD 1-800-430-7077) để được trợ
giúp miễn phí bằng ngôn ngữ của mình. Hãy gọi văn
phòng quận địa phương của quý vị nếu có các vấn đề
hoặc thắc mắc về tính đủ điều kiện. (Vietnamese)

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