

- Now U.S. citizens must prove their citizenship when applying for Medicaid.
- U.S. citizens need to prove citizenship only one time.
- Caseworkers must help Medicaid applicants get the proof they need.

Civil Rights Contact

If you feel discriminated against, send your complaint to:

Civil Rights
Ohio Dept. of Job & Family Services
30 E. Broad St., 30th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

State Hearings Contact

If you do not agree with an action or a decision on your benefits, including health care you may contact:

**1-866-635-3748,
choose option 1**



**For more information call the
Medicaid Consumer Hotline:**

1-800-324-8680

TTY/TDD for hearing impaired:

1-800-292-3572

Medicaid Citizenship Requirements for U.S. Citizens



**Ted Strickland, Governor
Douglas E. Lumpkin, Director**

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and Service Provider
jfs.ohio.gov/ohp

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This information is not intended to replace, change or obsolete any portion of the Medicaid Eligibility Manual or department rule. Additional copies can be requested by faxing to: (614) 728-7724.

**One-time proof of citizenship
required for Medicaid**

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has entered into an agreement with the Social Security Administration (SSA) to obtain U.S. citizenship information from SSA. Now, your local county department of job and family services (CDJFS) has the ability to verify U.S. citizenship for you. If the CDJFS can verify your U.S. citizenship through the SSA, then no further documentation is required.

If the CDJFS is not able to verify your information through SSA, then you will need to verify your U.S. citizenship to continue getting Medicaid. If you have provided all the information necessary to determine your eligibility **and** you meet all the eligibility requirements *except* for U.S. citizenship, you qualify for 90 days of coverage while you get the documents you need to verify your U.S. citizenship. This is called a “reasonable opportunity” period. If you have not provided proof of your U.S. citizenship by the end of the 90-day “reasonable opportunity” period, then your Medicaid may be terminated.

Also, if you have given birth to a baby while you were on Medicaid, your newborn baby is automatically eligible for Medicaid until the baby turns one. Your newborn baby will never have to verify U.S. citizenship.

What documents can I use to prove U.S. citizenship?

The following chart will explain what documents you can use to prove U.S. citizenship. These documents must be originals or copies certified by the originating agency.

You will need one Citizenship Document

One document from this list will fully satisfy the U.S. citizenship verification requirement. Naturalized citizens can only use these documents. This is an all-inclusive list.

- U.S. Passport
- Certificate of Naturalization (N-550 or N-570)
- Certificate of United States Citizenship (N-650 or N-561)
- Other specified documents*

Or one Birth Document and one Identity Document

If you cannot provide a document listed above, you must provide one birth document and one identity document to satisfy the U.S. citizenship verification requirement.

Birth Documents

- U.S. Birth Certificate
- U.S. National I.D. Card (I-197 or I-179)
- Report of birth abroad of a United States citizen (FS-240)

Other specified documents*

* An entire list of approved documents is available online: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicaidEligibility/downloads/citzspfaqext.pdf>

Identity Documents

- Government-issued I.D. (with photo)
- State-issued driver’s license (with photo)
- U.S. Military dependent’s I.D. card
- U.S. Military or Coast Guard Merchant Mariner card or draft record
- Native American Tribal document

For children younger than 16 years of age:

- A school record, school I.D., or report card
- A day-care or nursery school record
- An affidavit completed by a parent or guardian

By law, everyone applying for Medicaid must establish legal citizenship or be a legal alien.

How often do I need to prove my U.S. citizenship?

In Ohio, you need to prove your U.S. citizenship only one time.

Can I get help from my caseworker?

Yes, your caseworker must help you get the correct documents to prove U.S. citizenship. Please see the chart on the inside for more information about which documents meet the requirement.

How has the application process changed?

Before September 2006, people applying for Medicaid could simply check a box stating they were U.S. citizens without showing documents to prove it. Now, applicants must show official proof they are U.S. citizens or legal aliens before they can be approved for Medicaid.

Who does not need proof of U.S. citizenship?

People enrolled in Medicare, receiving Supplemental Security Income or Social Security Disability Insurance, receiving IV-B or IV-E Foster Care, or applying for Alien Emergency Medical Assistance do not need to meet the requirement. See the Medicaid Eligibility Manual for more exceptions.