SAN FRANCISCO
HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY



Meet Work Rules to Keep Medi-Cal

Starting January 1, 2027, new federal rules will affect some people who receive Medi-Cal.

To keep your benefits, you may be required to participate in certain work-related activities when you apply or renew your coverage.

Do these rules apply to me?

These rules apply to adults ages 19-64 who get Medi-Cal through the Affordable Care Act expansions, including adults covered under the new rules for immigrants.

Why is this important?

If you are required to meet the work requirement rules and do not, you could lose your Medi-Cal coverage.

Who is excused from these rules?

You are exempt from the work requirements if you meet any of these conditions:

- Age: You are under 19 or 65 and older. You are also exempt if you are under 26 and were in foster care on your 18th birthday
- Health: You are pregnant, have a disability, physical or mental health condition that prevents you from working, or participating in a substance use treatment program
- Caregiving: You care for a person with a disability or a dependent child under the age of 14
- You are receiving CalFresh and already subject to the CalFresh work requirements
- Specific Groups: You have been released from jail or prison in the last 90 days, receive Medicare Part A or B, or are American Indian or Alaska Native

How do I satisfy these new rules?

If you are not exempt, you must complete at least 80 hours of qualifying work, school, training, volunteering, or other approved activities in any **one** month during the review period before your Medi-Cal renewal.

For example, if your renewal is due in March 2027, you can meet the requirement by completing 80 hours in any one month between April 2026 and March 2027.

These work activities also need to be documented and can be combined from different activities.

Qualifying activities include:

- Working at a job
- Volunteering or doing community service
- Participating in a job training or employment program, including certain programs **offered by SFHSA**
- Enrolled in school less than half-time

Complying with CalFresh work requirements satisfies the work requirements for Medi-Cal.

If you are not receiving CalFresh food benefits, **contact us** to find out if you are eligible. Please get in touch with your benefit program to learn more about exemptions from the work requirement.

Can I participate in a work-related activity for any less than 80 hours per month and still meet the requirement? Are there any exceptions to that many hours?

Yes, there are certain kinds of work-related activities at nonprofits and City agencies that require fewer hours.

You do not need to complete the 80 hours if you have at least $580 in countable income and at least one month has passed since your last Medi-Cal renewal. If you have no income or your income is too low, you can combine hours from different approved activities to reach the 80-hour requirement.

Learn more

We are here to help you stay eligible. Reach out to your benefit program to get a referral for workforce services that's right for you.

Visit **SFHSA.org/KeepBenefits** for more information.

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