

# Applying for Medicaid

## Applying for Medicaid

There are four ways to apply for Medicaid:

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### 1. Online

- You can apply online at <https://abe.illinois.gov>.
  - Applying online is the best way to track the information you submitted in case you need to make changes.
  - When you apply online, you will be asked to create a secure account. Medicaid is required by law to keep your information private and secure. Be sure to keep your username, password, and other private login information in a safe place.
  - Your application will take about 30 to 45 minutes to complete. If you need to stop, click the “Save and Exit” button to return to the saved application later.
  - Your session will log you out after 30 minutes of inactivity. You will need to log in again to continue.
  - Once submitted, you will receive a “T-number” (tracking number). Write it down and keep it in a safe place. This number is necessary to track your application in the future.
  - You can use the same online application at <https://abe.illinois.gov> to apply for:
    - Medicaid
    - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
    - Cash Assistance (TANF, Refugee Cash Assistance)
    - Medicare Savings Program
  - Check the boxes for all the benefits you would like to receive.
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### 2. Over the Phone

- You can apply by calling the DHS Help Line at 1-800-843-6154.
  - A representative will take your information. Be sure to request the case number after completing the application. Write this number down and keep it safe.
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### 3. In Person

- You can apply in person at certain Illinois Department of Human Services locations called Family Community Resource Centers (FCRC).
- Use the online DHS Office Locator at [www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx) to find your nearest FCRC.
- Some hospitals, health centers, and community organizations can also help you apply for Medicaid and other benefits.
- You can also call Get Covered Illinois at 1-866-311-1119 to schedule an appointment for in-person assistance.

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#### 4. With a Paper Application

- Download the paper application form [here](#).
  - Follow the instructions on the form. You may either type in the online form or print it out and write on it.
  - Include as much information as possible, even if you cannot answer all the questions. Be sure to include your name and address and sign the form.
  - Once completed, carry, mail, or fax it to your local Family Community Resource Center.
  - Use the online DHS Office Locator at [www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx) to find the address or fax number of your nearest FCRC.
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#### Information You Will Need to Complete the Application

Filling out the application will be easier if you have the following information:

- An address where you can receive mail. This does not have to be your home address. You may use the address of a friend, family member, or community organization.
  - Full names and dates of birth for everyone in your household.
  - Social Security numbers for everyone applying who has one. If a Social Security number is pending, provide the date the application was made. Children and pregnant women are not required to have a Social Security number to apply or be found eligible.
  - Alien Registration Numbers for non-U.S. citizens applying for benefits who have one. Again, children and pregnant women are not required to have a Social Security number to apply.
  - Income information for all members of the household, including spousal support (Note: child support is not counted as income).
  - Health insurance information, if you or anyone in your household already has health insurance.
  - Financial resources (such as checking, savings, and retirement accounts) if you are applying for Medicaid based on being 65 or older.
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#### Need Help with an Application?

- Call the DHS Helpline:  
Phone: 1-800-843-6154  
TTY: 1-800-447-6404
  - The state will attempt to electronically verify as much of your information as possible. If something cannot be verified electronically, you will receive a letter with instructions on what documents to provide. If you do not return the required documents by the date indicated, your application may be denied, and you will not receive Medicaid.
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#### Important Notes:

- There are serious penalties for submitting false information to Medicaid.

- Ensure that all the information on your Medicaid application is truthful to the best of your knowledge.