

Understanding Impacts of H.R. 1 and the CA State Budget:

Access to Public Benefits and Services for Immigrant Communities in California

August 26, 2026



Neighborhood Legal Services
of Los Angeles County



WESTERN CENTER
ON LAW & POVERTY



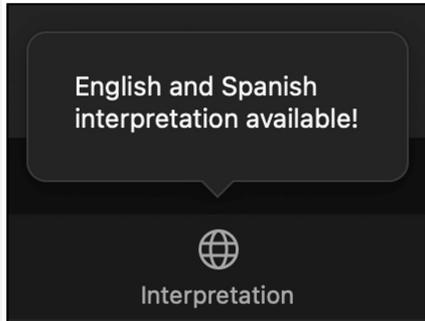
Welcome/Bienvenido

Select Your Language / **Eliga su idioma**

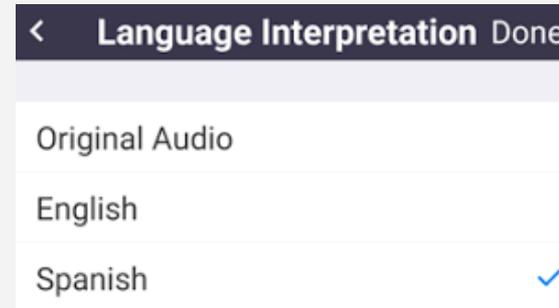
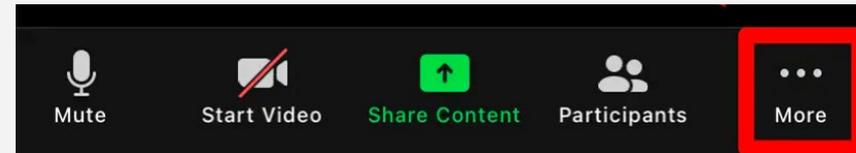


Oprima el botón marcado “Interpretation” (el globo) en la parte bajo de la pantalla. Seleccione “Spanish”.

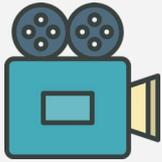
Computer / **Computadora**



Phone / **Por Telefono**



Housekeeping



The training will be **recorded**. By staying on this Zoom webinar you are **consenting** to be recorded. We will not record the Q & A portions. The recording will be shared after the training.



The training **slides** will be shared after the training.



Please **mute** your mic when you are not speaking.



Minimize distractions, by finding a quiet space if possible, silencing your phone, and closing extra browser tabs.



Please Use “**Raise Your Hand**,” Q&A function, or type your questions in chat.



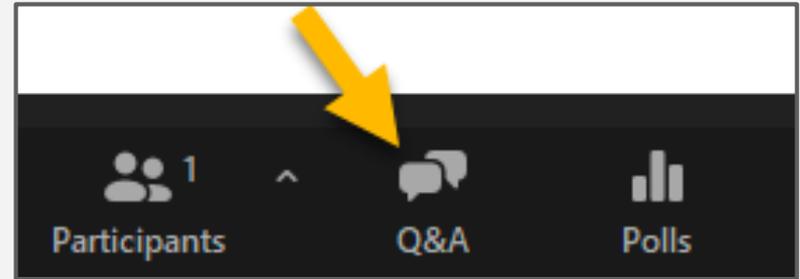
Share your **feedback** at the end of the training in a **survey**.

Q & A

There will be multiple opportunities to ask questions throughout the session.

Please submit your questions using the **Q & A function** on the **Zoom toolbar**.

We will **documenting all questions and answers on a spreadsheet** that we will send out in a follow-up email. We will include answers to questions that we don't get to during our session today as well.



About Us



**CALIFORNIA IMMIGRANT
POLICY CENTER**

<https://caimmigrant.org/>

About Us



<https://childrenspartnership.org/>

About Us



Neighborhood Legal Services
of Los Angeles County

General Legal Assistance

800-433-6251

Apply online – <https://nlsla.org/>

Health Consumer Center

800-896-3202

About Us



BAILA
Network

<https://www.bailanetwork.org>

Call: 818-492-5270

About Us



WESTERN CENTER
ON LAW & POVERTY

<https://wclp.org/>
(213) 487-7211

About Us



<https://economicsecurityproject.org/campaign/ca/>

Agenda

1. **H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility**
2. **Beneficiary Data Privacy**
3. **Messages and Alternative Resources**
4. **Q & A**

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility

- Health Programs
- Food Assistance
- Tax Credits

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility

Health Programs

- **Medi-Cal**
- **Covered California**
- **Medicare**

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility

Medi-Cal

Undocumented Adult Enrollment Freeze

- When: starting January 1, 2026
- Who: undocumented adults (age 19 and older)
 - Medi-Cal says undocumented adults include people without satisfactory immigration status or unable to verify satisfactory immigration status

Enrollment Freeze, Continued...

- **Undocumented adults enrolled or applied by Dec. 31, 2025 can keep their Medi-Cal if they continue to qualify!**
- **Many people can still apply and qualify!**
 - All people under age 19 or pregnant (including 12 months after pregnancy)
 - LPRs, DACA recipients, granted refugee or asylee status, VAWA petitioners, parolees, U visa applicants/holders, trafficking survivors, COFA migrants & many more!
- **All undocumented adults can still qualify for restricted-scope (emergency) Medi-Cal**

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility

Medi-Cal

ENROLL NOW!

Last day to apply before enrollment freeze for
undocumented adults starts:

December 31, 2025

Submit Medi-Cal applications by
11:59 PM on December 31!



1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility

Medi-Cal

Example 1

Rebeca is 16 years old and undocumented. She applies for Medi-Cal in January 2026. Can she get regular Medi-Cal or only restricted-scope (emergency) Medi-Cal?

Answer: Regular Medi-Cal because the enrollment freeze does not apply to people under age 19! 

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility

Medi-Cal

Example 2

José is 31 years old and has DACA. He applies for Medi-Cal in January 2026. Could he get regular Medi-Cal or only restricted-scope (emergency) Medi-Cal?

Answer: Regular Medi-Cal because the enrollment freeze does not apply to people with DACA! ✓

Enrollment Freeze, Continued...

- **New 3-month grace period** allows re-enrollment after Medi-Cal terminates for any reason
- Applies only to adult undocumented immigrants in the enrollment freeze group
- Allows re-enrollment during three months after last month of active Medi-Cal

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility

Medi-Cal

Example 3

Úrsula is 26 years old and has regular Medi-Cal in December 2025. At the end of May 2026, the county terminates her Medi-Cal. What can Úrsula do?

Answer: Úrsula may re-enroll (by completing renewal, submitting requested info., or re-application) through August 2026. 

Questions about Medi-Cal's adult
undocumented immigrant enrollment
freeze starting in January 2026?

Medi-Cal Minus Dental

- Medi-Cal without dental coverage (except emergencies)
- When: starting July 1, 2026
- Who: some people age 19 and older without satisfactory immigration status
 - Children and pregnant people can continue to receive dental (full Medi-Cal), including 12 months post pregnancy

Medi-Cal Minus Dental

- People who can **keep Medi-Cal with dental coverage**:
 - Under age 19
 - Pregnant
 - LPRs (exempt or met 5-year bar)
 - Refugees/asylees
 - Cuban/Haitian entrants
 - COFA migrants
 - VAWA self-petitioners, PRUCOL & more!

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility

Medi-Cal

Example 4

Petra is 36 years old, has DACA, and has had Medi-Cal since 2023. Starting in July 2026, will Petra have regular Medi-Cal, or Medi-Cal minus dental?

Answer: Petra's Medi-Cal will exclude most dental services (except emergencies) starting in July 2026. 🙅

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility

Medi-Cal

Example 5

Aureliano is 38 years old, has DACA, and applies for Medi-Cal in August 2026. If he meets application requirements, what will Aureliano's Medi-Cal cover?

Answer: Aureliano is not subject to the enrollment freeze, so he can apply for more than restricted-scope (emergency Medi-Cal). But he's stuck with Medi-Cal minus dental. 🙄

Medi-Cal Minus Dental + Premiums

- Monthly premiums of \$30 per person
- When: starting July 1, 2027 🙄
- Who: only adults ages 19-59 in the same immigrant groups as Medi-Cal minus dental

H.R. 1 Terminates Medicaid Funding

- When: starting October 1, 2026
- Who: H.R. 1 ends federally-funded Medi-Cal for people granted refugee status, granted asylee status, trafficking survivors w/ ORR certification or granted T Visa, DV survivors eligible under VAWA (“battered noncitizens”), parolees 1+ yr, and others
 - Still eligible for federal funding: LPRs (met 5-year bar), Cuban/Haitian entrants, and COFA nationals
- Impacts on eligibility for Medi-Cal? Stay tuned.

Questions about Medi-Cal Minus Dental
starting in July 1, 2026?

Plus \$30 premiums starting July 1, 2027?

Asset Limits

- \$130,000 for one person + \$65,000 for each additional
- When: starting January 1, 2026
 - New applications
 - Renewals due after that date
- Who: only people age 65+ and/or people with disabilities (non-MAGI Medi-Cal groups)

 Non-MAGI groups list 

Asset Limits

- \$130,00 for one person + \$65,000 for each additional
- Not counted: first home and vehicle, household items, retirement accounts, and more!
- Counted: bank accounts, second homes & vehicles, cash, other financial resources, and more!

May impact 100,000+ Medi-Cal members!

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility

Medi-Cal

Example 6

Mauricio is 72 years old with Medi-Cal since 2019. When Medi-Cal eliminated the asset limits in 2024, he saved around \$167,000 after his sister sold a property. What will Mauricio need to do to keep his Medi-Cal in 2026?

Answer: Mauricio's Medi-Cal will not terminate on January 1, 2026. But by his next annual renewal, he will need to spend down his savings to below the \$130,000 limit. 

Work Requirement Exclusions

- When: starting January 1, 2027 *or later**
- Who: Medi-Cal adults ages 19 through 64
- Many people *exempt entirely* from requirements!

*Medi-Cal coverage may terminate
for up to 3 million Californians!*

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility

Medi-Cal

Exempted Groups Include:

- People under age 19 and over age 64
- Disability - “medically frail” or “special needs”
- Parents, guardians & caretaker relatives of dependent children up to age 13 and disabled children of any age
- Pregnant & post-pregnancy people
- People incarcerated or recently released within 90 days
- Foster youth and former foster youth under age 26
- Some American Indians and Alaska Natives
- Short-term hardship, and more!

Work Requirement Exclusions

- What: must show work, school, or community service time (80 hours/month) at **application** (at least 1 month before) and **renewal** (at least 1 month since last renewal)
- How: to be determined 🧐 but people can automatically meet requirements if:
 - They have income of at least \$580/month in any single month
 - Seasonal workers: average income of at least \$580/month over past six months

Example 7

Remedios is 52 years old with Medi-Cal since 2015. Her annual renewal is coming up next July. She is not in any exempted group. Remedios is worried about work requirement exclusions and how to keep her coverage. What should she do?

Answer: Work requirement exclusions will not start until January 2027 or later. Remedios can renew her Medi-Cal following current rules. 

**Work requirement exclusions are not in effect until
*January 2027 or later!***

Apply for Medi-Cal now!

Renew your Medi-Cal when it's your turn!

(Stay tuned for details next year)

More Frequent Renewals (every 6 months)

- When: starting January 1, 2027
- Who: Medi-Cal adults ages 19 through 64

*Medi-Cal coverage may terminate
for up to 400,000 Californians!*

Stay tuned for more details next year!

Shorter Retroactive Coverage

- When: starting January 1, 2027
- Who: All Medi-Cal applicants
- What: retro Medi-Cal (before application month) shortened to one month for “expansion” adults, and two months for all other applicants

Stay tuned for more details next year!

Unchanged Safety Nets

- Restricted-scope (emergency) Medi-Cal
- Presumptive eligibility regardless of immigration status
- Pregnancy-based Medi-Cal, Medi-Cal Access Program (MCAP)
- Medi-Cal application reasonable opportunity period
- Hospital financial assistance
- County safety-net health programs

Questions about asset limits, work requirement exclusions, 6-month renewals, and retroactive coverage?

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility

Covered
California

H.R. 1 did not extend federal enhanced premium tax credits

- Enhanced credits will expire in December 2025 – *unless Congress extends them*
 - Extension: average premium increase – 10.3%
 - No extension: total increase – 97%
- For people below 150% FPL, state funding will keep premiums close to their 2025 amounts
 - Income limits: \$23,475 for one person / \$48,225 for a family of 4

H.R. 1 changes to Covered California

- Excess tax credit repayments (Jan. 1, 2026): more expensive for families below 400% FPL
- Immigrant exclusions (Jan. 1, 2027): from tax credits so only permanent residents, COFA migrants, and Cuban/Haitian entrants will qualify
- Ends auto-reenrollment (Jan 1, 2028): so everybody has to re-verify eligibility & choose a plan each year

Marketplace Final Rule (not H.R. 1)

- **August 25, 2025**
 - Terminates eligibility for DACA recipients
 - Removes special enrollment period (SEP) for families at or below 150% FPL
- **November 1, 2026**
 - Shortens open enrollment period to just November 1 to December 31

Marketplace Final Rule (not H.R. 1)

- For 2026 plan year only:
 - **Must provide income proofs** when tax data unavailable or below 100% FPL
 - No more tax credits when family did not file taxes this year* (stayed by court injunction 8/22/25)

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget
Impacts to Eligibility

Medicare

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget Impacts to Eligibility

Medicare

H.R. 1 Medicare Immigration Exclusions

- When: no later than January 4, 2027
- Who: restricts Medicare to
 - Citizens & LPRs
 - Cuban/Haitian entrants under family reunification program
 - COFA migrants (Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Palau)
- Medicare terminates in January 2027 for: granted refugee status, granted asylee status, trafficking survivors w/ ORR certification or granted T Visa, DV survivors eligible under VAWA (“battered noncitizens”), parolees 1+ yr, and others

Questions about Covered California and Medicare?

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget
Impacts to Eligibility

SNAP – CalFresh



Immigrant Eligibility - No effective date in the legislation, so may be effective immediately (TBD), but USDA must issue guidance on how to administer these changes

- Eligibility for federally funded SNAP will be limited to:
 - Naturalized Citizens,
 - Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs or Green Card Holders),
 - Cuban-Haitian entrants, and people present in the U.S. in accordance with a Compact of Free Association (citizens of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, and Palau, often referred to as “COFA migrants”)
- CDSS estimates that about 73,900 people may lose eligibility b/c of this provision
 - [Navigating Federal Cuts to Health and Human Services in California: A Presentation with CalHHS - YouTube](#)

What does this mean?

- Naturalized citizens and LPRs
 - No change to eligibility
- People granted refugee status, granted asylee status, trafficking survivors w/ ORR certification or granted T Visa, DV survivors eligible under VAWA (“battered noncitizens”), parolees 1+ yr, etc.
 - Losing federal eligibility (no implementation yet)
 - *May* receive state-funded food assistance through CFAP – may require law change
- People with pending U Visa application or approved U Visa; people preparing to file a T Visa or w/ pending T Visa application (not ORR-certified)
 - Law says eligible for CFAP to same extent as refugees eligible for federal benefits (which has changed)
 - No change presently, may need law change
- People with pending asylum status, pending family petitions, undoc.
 - No changes – not eligible for state or federal food assistance (except for WIC)

What is the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP)?

- The State of California provides state-funded food benefits through the California Food Assistance Program (CFAP) for noncitizens who do not qualify for CalFresh benefits which are federally funded.
- In order to be eligible for CFAP, you must currently be ineligible for CalFresh benefits solely due to your immigration status under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996.
- In 2022, the Governor and the Legislature passed a budget that included funding to expand CFAP to all Californians, age 55 years or older, who are income-eligible, regardless of their immigration status. **The CFAP expansion will be implemented on October 1, 2027.**

Will immigrants who lose eligibility for CalFresh due to H.R. 1 become eligible for CFAP benefits?

- Ongoing advocacy: A technical fix in statute to ensure that newly excluded immigrants under H.R. 1 are covered under the state-funded California Food Assistance Program, estimated at \$133 million in the general fund.

Existing Food Programs not Impacted

- On July 10, 2025, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) published a notice in the Federal Register interpreting the meaning of “Federal Public Benefit” in the 1996 welfare law.
- Confirms that under federal law, **the school breakfast and lunch programs must remain available to all eligible children regardless of their immigration status.**
- Confirms that states have an option to provide or deny certain FNS programs, such as **WIC and Summer EBT (SUN Bucks)**, to immigrants who are not “qualified”. This state option is not new.



1 → H.R. 1 Impacts to CF Eligibility Work Requirements

CalFresh

- **Changes to Work Requirements - CA Waiver ends Feb 1, 2026**
 - CalFresh participants will have to show that they work (or engage in qualified activity) at least 80 hours per month **unless exempt**
 - Otherwise, get CF three months from **Feb 2026 to Jan 2029**
- **Fewer exemptions from work requirements:**
 - Adults ages 18-64 (*was 18-54*)
 - Parents, grandparents, or caregivers of children ages 14 or older (*was child under 18*)
 - Veterans
 - Adults experiencing homelessness, including homeless families with children 14 or older
 - Former foster youth
 - Some Native American adults (with limited exemptions)
- CDSS estimates that 303,000 people may lose eligibility b/c of this rule change

1 → H.R. 1 Impacts to CF Eligibility Work Requirements Continued

CalFresh

Not required to “work register”

- Mentally or physically unfit for work
- Caretaker for Child under 6 or incapacitated person
- Complying with CalWORKs GAIN
- Getting UIB, SSI/SSDI/CAPI
- Participating in drug/alcohol rehab program
- Earning average \$870/mo
- Enrolled 1/2 in school or training

Exempt from time limit rule once registered:

- Mentally or physically unfit for work
- Under 18, over 64
- Pregnant
- Have a child 13 and under
- Certain members of federally recognized tribes

Screen for exemptions and compliance with work requirements at application and recertification (once a year)

- See: [WCLP high level overview of work requirements](#)

- **Standard Utility Allowance (SUA)**
 - Loss of automatic “Heat and Eat” SUA
 - Loss of internet expenses in SUA
- **Budget impacts**
 - Increased administrative cost sharing
 - Funding Match Required based on “Payment Error Rates”
 - Effective Oct. 2027
 - Based on error rate in 2025 or 2026
 - Estimated \$2.4 billion based on current error rate (about 10%)

1 → H.R. 1 and State Budget
Impacts to Eligibility

Tax Credits

The False Choice We Faced

Safeguarding what little our communities are given

- Modernizing safety net programs ✓
- Expanding tax credits, CTC and EITC ✓
- Meeting high cost of living needs ✓
- **Instead:** Defending basic survival programs ✗

What Families Actually Need

- Childcare
- Groceries
- Housing

California's immigrant families form the backbone of our state.

- **10.6 million immigrants** (27% of CA population)
- **37% of CA workforce**
- **\$8.5 billion** in state and local taxes paid annually
- **3.3 million Californians** in mixed-status families
- **20% of children under 18** live in mixed-status families



OBBBA'S new CTC requirements target immigrant families—especially ones with young children.

BEFORE H.R.1

- CTC: **\$2,000 per child** , required SSN for child **only**
- Family with two children needed **\$36,000** income for full benefits
- ITIN filers: Could claim CTC for eligible children

AFTER H.R.1 (NEW CTC)

- CTC: **\$2,200 per child** , requires SSN for child **and at least one parent**
- Family with two children will need to make **\$41,500** to get full benefits
- ITIN filers: **now excluded** from filing,
- **2.3 million CA children** left behind due to family income
- **459,800 CA children** excluded due to mixed-status family restrictions

Almost 300,000 children in CA, including more than 100,000 kids in LA County, will not be able to access the full CTC because of the H.R.1's changes.

California and LA families are some of the hardest hit by the H.R.1 changes to the CTC.

2.3 mil
statewide

California children make up **over 12% of the 19 million children left behind nationwide.**

1 in 4 kids
statewide

Approx. 25% of all California kids currently cannot access the full child tax credit

815,000 in
LA County

In LA county, **almost 815,000 children** will not be able to access the full CTC with HR1 changes—an increase of more than 100,000.

1 in 3 kids
in LA
County

With OBBBA changes, **about 1 in 3 kids in LA County** will not be able to access the full CTC.

In districts like CA-34 and CA-37, **this rises to almost 50%.**

State Impact, CA ITIN friendly state?

- **Data Sharing:** MOU between Homeland Security and ICE
 - Requesting the data for 7.3 million taxpayers “sought” by ICE
 - Computer program that would give ICE access to taxpayer information.
 - MOU has been acted upon

ITIN Earned Income Tax Credit, Young Child Tax Credit, and Foster Youth Tax Credit Total Statistics 2025 Returns Processed through July 31, 2025 2024 Returns Processed through July 31, 2024

| Credit | Count | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|------------|----------|
| | 2024 | 2025 | Difference | % Change |
| Schedule 540 EITC Allowed | 218,088 | 205,896 | -12,192 | (6%) |
| Schedule 540 YCTC Allowed | 35,875 | 35,518 | -357 | (1%) |
| Schedule 540 FYTC Allowed | * | * | * | * |

EITC - We got lucky this time

- **Federal EITC can provide up to \$7,830, depending on income and family size.**

Who qualifies

- **Taxpayers & any qualifying children need valid Social Security numbers.**
- **Taxpayers with no children must be between the ages 25 to 65.**

Economic Reality Check

Local Economic Impact

- Reduced purchasing power in communities
- Harm to local businesses
- Every dollar to working families generates more economic activity
- Tax credits help families overcome economic crisis

State Revenue!



1 → Other Federal Changes

HHS + USDA Memos

US Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) Notice

- Restricts eligibility for the following programs to certain “qualified immigrants:”
 - Head Start
 - Community Health Centers
 - Title X family planning program
 - Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
- States have sued to block the notice; HHS has agreed not to enforce until Sept. 11, 2025
- Note that the memo confirms that non-profits DO NOT have to verify immigration status

US Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) Notice

- Confirms state school breakfast and lunch must remain available to all eligible children regardless of immigration status
- Confirms that states have an option to provide or deny certain FNS programs, like WIC, to immigrants who don’t meet the federal definition of “qualified immigrant” – this option is not new
- Suggests that recipients of certain USDA grants, payments, etc. are receiving a “Federal public benefit” and must be “qualified immigrants”

For comprehensive and up-to-date analysis, see PIF materials:

- [Explainer: HHS Notice on Federal Public Benefits](#)
- [Explainer: USDA's Notice on Federal Public Benefits](#)

Questions about CalFresh or Tax Credits?

2 → Data Privacy



2 → Data Privacy

Medi-Cal Participants

What is going on?

- Data sharing agreement between the federal Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
 - Personal information (including address, telephone number, banking information) of ALL Medi-Cal participants is accessible to ICE to use for immigration enforcement
- This is a break from long-standing policy and practice
- Many states, including California, have sued the federal government to stop this
 - Right now: **there is a preliminary injunction in place that stops ICE** from using data that it already has and blocks CMS from sharing additional information
 - This is temporary - until lawsuit ends or 14 days after federal agencies have engaged in a “reasoned decisionmaking process” – whichever is sooner

For more detailed explanation, see [BAILA - What to Know re: Medi-Cal Data Sharing 2025](#)

2 → Data Privacy

Medi-Cal Participants

- **What's still unknown?**
 - Whether ICE has already used Medi-Cal participant information for immigration enforcement
 - Whether the courts will stop this practice permanently

2 → Data Privacy

CalFresh Participants

- **What happened?**
 - In May 2025, USDA demanded that states provide the personal information of all SNAP (CalFresh) applicants and participants from the past 5 years
- **Lawsuits**
 - **SNAP recipients:** Sued May 22; USDA paused demands and put notice in federal register; July 9th renewed demand; July 22nd new TRO request filed, 24th denied; litigation is ongoing
 - **Attorney Generals:** California AG Bonta - July 28th - after USDA threatened to withhold SNAP funding
- **Status**
 - It appears that no information has yet been shared by CA
 - Note: the population who receive CalFresh generally at lower risk of facing immigration enforcement – for example, people who are undoc or with pending asylum have never been eligible for CalFresh; though many mixed status households receive CF

2 → Data Privacy

IRS - Taxpayers

- There is a data sharing agreement in place b/t IRS and ICE that allows ICE to:
 - Confirm the (1) names, (2) addresses, and (3) tax data for individuals facing final orders of removal or under federal criminal investigation – including investigations for failing to leave the country after 90 days
- Litigation is ongoing - follow here:
<https://www.citizen.org/litigation/centro-de-trabajadores-unidos-v-bessent/>

Questions about Data Privacy?

3 → Key Messages and Alternative Resources

3 → Messages re: Public Benefits and Data Privacy

- Families must weigh value of the critical health care and food assistance that they receive through Medi-Cal and CalFresh with possibility that information could be shared with DHS. Only they can decide what is right for them and their family.
- If immigration already has current contact information, then applying for or renewing benefits may not expose information that is not already known.
- When applying for Medi-Cal or CalFresh, applicants do not need to share the immigration status or Social Security numbers for family members who are not applying for benefits for themselves.
- Also, note: many immigrants who are eligible for Medi-Cal and CalFresh are not at high risk of facing immigration enforcement – for example: naturalized citizens, LPRs, granted asylum and/or refugee status, people with approved U or T Visas, and others
 - See more  [here](#) (BAILA explainer on Medi-Cal privacy).

Credit to the PIF Coalition for developing messages.

3 → Key Messages

Eligibility Changes

- **Check your health coverage!**
 - **If you are already enrolled** in full scope Medi-Cal, you can stay covered. If you are 19+, and eligible because of the state-funded Adult Expansions in 2020-2024, you must keep up with renewals to keep your coverage. You'll have 90 days to fix if you lose coverage.
 - If not enrolled in full-scope Medi-Cal already -- talk to a health coverage expert as soon as possible!
 - People who are 19+ and only eligible under state-funded adult expansion will not be able to submit new applications for full-scope Medi-Cal starting January of 2026. Though, emergency Medi-Cal will still be available.
 - **If you need dental work – access as soon as possible**; dental coverage for many going away in **July 2026**

3 → Key Messages

Eligibility Changes Cont.

- **Stay connected** with trusted sources of Medi-Cal and CalFresh information – like local clinics, community organizations, and legal services.
 - Changes like work requirements and increased renewals are coming.
 - Changes to eligibility are coming
 - But there is still help available
- **Spread the news**
 - These are big changes that the community needs to be aware of so that they can make the best decisions for themselves and their family.

3 → Key Messages

Public Charge

- The Public Charge rule hasn't changed: Stay connected with trusted organizations to learn about any future changes to immigrant use of public benefits.
- Use of Medi-Cal (except for long-term care), all health services, CalFresh, WIC and all food assistance, and all housing services (and more!) are not considered in a public charge test.
- Eligible children's use of benefits will not affect their parents in a public charge test. Parents don't have to provide an SSN or immigration status.
- Resources: [BAILA Network](#)  ; [PIF](#) 

3 → Key Messages

Sponsor Deeming

- Sponsor deeming rules have not changed
 - First Trump admin issued memo re sponsor deeming, but no change
- Current law allows states to ask sponsors to repay the government for use of CalFresh, Medi-Cal, CalWORKs
 - But no known instance of CA seeking reimbursement
- *Resource: Will Enrolling in Benefits Affect My Immigration Sponsor?*
 - [Recording](#)
 - [Sides](#)
 - [Flyer Will enrolling in benefits affect my sponsor?](#)



Will Enrolling in Benefits Affect my Sponsor?

If you are a Lawful Permanent Resident (green card holder) and have a sponsor, agencies will ask about your sponsor's financial information when you apply for some public benefits, including: CalFresh, CalWORKs, CAPI, General Relief, and SSI.

Why is the social services agency asking about my sponsor? 

Agencies use your sponsor's income when they calculate your benefit amount. This is because agencies assume that you receive some financial support from your sponsor (even if you do not).

To our knowledge, the State of California has never required a sponsor to repay the benefits used by the person they sponsored.

Are there exceptions?

Yes! If you are a Lawful Permanent Resident, you **do not** have to provide your sponsor's financial information if at least one of the following is true:

- You have credit for at least 10 years of work history in the US (can possibly count work done by spouse or parent)
- You have naturalized (become a citizen)
- You need benefits because you are a survivor of domestic violence
- You will go hungry or become homeless without benefits
- You are younger than 18 (CalFresh only)

 Also - No one has to provide information about their sponsor when they apply for **Medi-Cal and WIC!**

If you have a sponsor and have questions about getting benefits, you can get free assistance from the BAILA Network, a team of benefits enrollers, advocates, and lawyers.

Learn more about the BAILA Network and fill out a form to request free legal and enrollment services at:
www.bailanetwork.org

  
[@bailanetwork](https://www.instagram.com/bailanetwork)

Or you can call the CHIRLA Immigrant Assistance line to get help with the online form
1-888-624-4752

3 → Key Messages

Language Access

- Exec Order 14224, and AG implementation memo (July 15, 2025)
 - Declares English official language; revokes EO 13,166; suspends LEP guidance; orders internal reviews; in 180 days public comment on new guidance; issues “recommendations” to federal agencies
 - “Law” unchanged
- California law and enforcement unchanged
 - DHCS language access rights and complaints
 - See: https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Pages/Language_Access.aspx
 - CDSS (and county) language access rights and complaints
 - See: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/cdss-programs/civil-rights/language-access-services>

3 → Client Facing Resources

Data Privacy

- PIF Flyers: <https://pifcoalition.org/data-privacy-and-public-programs>

Changes in Medi-Cal Eligibility

- [DHCS immigrant eligibility FAQs](#)
- [What Medi-Cal Members Need to Know \(DHCS\)](#)

Public Charge

- Los Angeles Folks: <https://www.bailanetwork.org/public-charge>
- PIF: <https://pifcoalition.org/publiccharge2022>

3 → Resources for Advocates: Eligibility

Eligibility Changes

- Health Coverage
 - California Dept. of Health Care Services (DHCS) Medi-Cal Changes Timeline: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/eligibility/Pages/medi-cal-changes.aspx>
 - KFF Tracker: <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/health-provisions-in-the-2025-federal-budget-reconciliation-law/>
- CalFresh
 - CDSS ACL on CalFresh Changes: [ACL 25-50](#)
 - [WCLP high level overview of work requirements](#)
- CalFresh and Medi-Cal: See CalHHS Comprehensive Webinar: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cPgCod_EqUo
- [PIF: Provisions on Immigrant Access to Public Benefits in the Final Reconciliation Package](#)
- Redefining “Federal Public Benefit” PIF Resources:
 - [Explainer: HHS Notice on Federal Public Benefits](#)
 - [Explainer: USDA's Notice on Federal Public Benefits](#)

3 → Resources for Advocates Cont.: Data Privacy

Data Privacy

- Medicaid Data Sharing
 - BAILA Resource (kept updated): [What to Know re: Medi-Cal Data Sharing 2025](#)
 - Tracking litigation → Follow AG Bonta's Press Releases: <https://oag.ca.gov/media/news>
 - Health4All FAQs data intrusion – [English / Spanish](#)
- CalFresh
 - AG Bonta Suit: <https://oag.ca.gov/news/press-releases/attorney-general-bonta-sues-trump-administration-over-illegal-demands-states>
- IRS
 - Tracking litigation: <https://www.citizen.org/litigation/centro-de-trabajadores-unidos-v-bessent/>

3 → Alternative Resources

Food Access

- Find local food banks: <https://www.cafoodbanks.org/our-members/>
- Local Mutual Aid
 - For example: <https://mutualaidla.org/>

Health Care

- [Hospital financial assistance](#)
- [County safety-net health programs](#)

Tax Credits

- [CalEITC4me.org](#)

4 → Questions?

Thank you!