



Department of Public Health and Human Services

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6/16/2016

People involved in the Montana Criminal Justice System face some unique regulations that govern how they may obtain health care coverage. In conjunction with the Commissioner of Insurance's Office, the Department of Public Health and Human Services developed the attached fact sheet as a handy reference to explain available health coverage options.

I hope you find this helpful.

Mary E. Dalton
Montana State Medicaid Director



Health Coverage Options for Justice-Involved People in Montana

Montana residents who are involved with the criminal justice system may still qualify for health coverage through Medicaid or the Marketplace. See the facts below.

2016 Eligibility Levels	MARKETPLACE	MEDICAID
JAIL	<p>A person in jail who has not yet been found guilty (also known as pre-trial) can enroll in health coverage through the Marketplace.</p> <p>A person in jail who has been sentenced can apply but is not eligible for coverage until released. Release from jail is a qualifying event to obtain health care coverage outside of the open enrollment period.</p>	<p>A person in jail can apply for Medicaid, but cannot receive health coverage until released, unless they are admitted to a hospital for more than 24 hours.</p>
OUT ON BOND	<p>A person out on bond can enroll in health coverage through the Marketplace.</p>	<p>A person out on bond can apply for Medicaid and receive health coverage if they meet all other eligibility criteria.</p>
PROBATION	<p>A person on probation can enroll in health coverage through the Marketplace.</p>	<p>A person on probation can apply for Medicaid and receive health coverage if they meet all other eligibility criteria.</p>
PRISON	<p>A person in prison can apply for, but cannot enroll in, health coverage through the Marketplace until his/her release. Release from prison is a qualifying event to obtain health care coverage outside of the open enrollment period.</p>	<p>A person in prison can apply for Medicaid but cannot receive coverage until released, unless they are admitted to a hospital for more than 24 hours.</p>
PRE-RELEASE (State or Local Corrections Related)	<p>A person on pre-release can apply for, but cannot receive, health coverage through the Marketplace until his/her release. Release from pre-release is a qualifying event to obtain health care</p>	<p>A person in a pre-release can apply for Medicaid and receive coverage once the application is approved if the person is allowed to (1) work in the community (2) use community</p>

<p>Supervised Community Residential Facilities)</p>	<p>coverage outside of the open enrollment period.</p>	<p>resources like libraries or grocery stores, and (3) get health care in the community—even if the pre-release is locked during certain hours, requires residents to sign in and out, or requires them to avoid certain parts of town.</p>
<p>PAROLE</p>	<p>A person on parole can enroll in health coverage through the Marketplace during the usual open enrollment period or during the special enrollment period after their release from jail, pre-release or prison.</p>	<p>A person on parole can apply for Medicaid and receive health benefits once the application is approved.</p>

Apply online at *healthcare.gov* or call 1-800-318-2596. You can also find local help filling out the application at <http://covermt.org/find-local-help/>