

## Medi-Cal Requires Proof of Citizenship and Identity for U.S. Citizens and Nationals

A new law says *most* U.S. citizen or nationals applying for or receiving Medi-Cal must show proof of citizenship *and* proof of identity. Read below to learn how this law may apply to you or your family.

**If you are not a U.S. citizen or national, this law does not apply to you.**

### The new law may affect your Medi-Cal benefits.

If you have Medi-Cal now, your benefits will continue as long as you meet all other eligibility requirements and make a reasonable effort to provide proof of citizenship and proof of identity. If you are *applying* for Medi-Cal, you cannot receive full-scope Medi-Cal benefits until you provide the proof.

**Some U.S. citizens or nationals do not have to provide proof of citizenship and identity,** including:

- Anyone with:
  - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
  - Medicare
  - Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
  - Social Security Retirement and Survivors Insurance (RSI – Title II) based on their own disability
- Anyone under 21 asking for Minor Consent Services
- Babies born to women who are on Medi-Cal
- Children in Foster Care, Adoption Assistance, or Kin-GAP
- Babies in the Abandoned Baby Program
- CalWORKs Beneficiaries

### What if I am **NOT** a U.S. citizen?

If you are not a U.S. citizen or national, you only need to provide the same documents that were required before. Nothing has changed.

### What if I am a U.S. national?

U.S. nationals must provide proof of citizenship and identity. U.S. nationals include people born in American Samoa (including Swains Island) and certain people from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

### You will have time to provide proof of citizenship and identity.

If you do not have proof when you apply, submit your application and provide the proof as soon as you can. If you do not have proof at the time of your annual redetermination, and you need more time, let your eligibility worker know.

### Acceptable citizenship and identity documents:

The best way to provide proof of *both* citizenship and identity is with **one** of these documents:

- U.S. Passport issued without limitation (expired ones are acceptable)
- Certificate of Naturalization (N-550 or N-570)
- Certificate of U.S. Citizenship (N-560 or N-561)

If you do not have one of these documents, you must provide **two** documents:

- **One** citizenship document (such as a U.S. birth certificate), *AND*
- **One** identity document (such as a driver's license issued by a U.S. state)

You **must** submit the *original* documents or copies certified by the issuing agency. See back for a list of acceptable documents.

### What if I paid for medical or dental care while getting my proof of citizenship and identity documents?

Medi-Cal may pay your bills. Call the Beneficiary Services at the Department of Health Care Services for answers to your questions: **(916) 403-2007**.

## Acceptable Citizenship and Identity Documents

The easiest way for U.S. citizens or nationals to prove citizenship and identity is with **one** of these documents:

- U.S. Passport issued without limitation (expired ones are acceptable)
- Certificate of Naturalization (N-550 or N-570)
- Certificate of U.S. Citizenship (N-560 or N-561)

– **OR** –

*If you do not have one of the documents above, provide...*

### **One citizenship document listed below:**

- ❖ U.S. Birth Certificate
- ❖ Certification of Report of Birth (*DS-1350*)
- ❖ Report of Birth Abroad of a U.S. Citizen (*FS-240*)
- ❖ State Department Certification of Birth (*FS-545* or *DS-1350*)
- ❖ U.S. Citizen Identification Card (*I-197* or *I-179*)
- ❖ American Indian Card (*I-872*)
- ❖ Northern Marianas Card (*I-873*)
- ❖ Final adoption decree showing a U.S. place of birth
- ❖ Proof of adoption of a child born outside U.S. and in the legal/physical custody of the U.S. citizen parent (IR-3 or IR-4)
- ❖ Proof of U.S. civil service employment before June 1, 1976
- ❖ U.S. military service record showing a U.S. place of birth
- ❖ U.S. hospital record made at the time of birth \* †
- ❖ Life, health, or other insurance record \* †
- ❖ Religious record recorded in the U.S. within 3 months of birth showing U.S. place of birth and birth date or age
- ❖ Early school record showing a U.S. place of birth, date of admission, birth date, names and places of birth of parents
- ❖ Federal or State census record that shows the applicant's age and U.S. citizenship or place of birth
- ❖ Seneca Indian tribal census record \* †
- ❖ Bureau of Indian Affairs Navajo Indians tribal census record \* †
- ❖ U.S. State Vital Statistics birth registration notification \* †
- ❖ A delayed U.S. public birth record that was recorded more than 5 years after the person's birth \* †
- ❖ Statement signed by doctor or midwife present at the birth \* †
- ❖ Roll of Alaska Natives from the Bureau of Indian Affairs \* †
- ❖ Admission papers from a nursing or skilled care facility, or other institution that shows a U.S. place of birth \*
- ❖ Medical record (not an immunization record) \* †

*\* Must be dated at least 5 years before your 1st Medi-Cal application and show a U.S. place of birth.*

*† For children under 16, must be created near the time of birth.*

You must provide a document as high up on the list as you can.

*If you cannot provide any of these citizenship documents...*

Ask two adults to fill out and sign an *Affidavit of Citizenship*. Both adults must have proof of their own identity and U.S. citizenship, and only one of them may be related to you.

– **AND** –

### **One identity document listed below:**

- ❖ Driver's license issued by a U.S. State or Territory with a photograph or other identifying information
- ❖ School Identification card with a photograph
- ❖ U.S. Military I.D. card or draft record
- ❖ Federal, state or local government I.D. card with same identifying information as a driver's license
- ❖ U.S. Military dependent identification card
- ❖ A U.S. passport (issued with limitation)
- ❖ Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood or other U.S. American Indian/Alaska Native Tribal document
- ❖ U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Card
- ❖ Three or more confirming documents, such as employee ID cards, high school or college diplomas, marriage licenses, divorce decrees, and property deeds/titles
- ❖ Clinic, doctor, or hospital records for a child under 16
- ❖ School, nursery school, or daycare records, including report cards, for a child under 16. The county will verify with the school.
- ❖ For people with disabilities who live in a residential care facility, an Affidavit signed by the facility's director or administrator

For a **child under 16** who did not provide an *Affidavit of Citizenship*, you may submit:

- ❖ An Affidavit of the child's identity signed by the child's parent, guardian, or caretaker relative with date and place of birth
- ❖ A Medi-Cal application or the Healthy Families/Medi-Cal joint application that shows the child's date and place of birth, and is signed by the child's parent, guardian, or caretaker relative.

For a **child under 18**, an Affidavit of the child's identity signed by the child's parent, guardian, or caretaker relative may be used if school ID cards or driver licenses are not available.

*Note:* Expired identity documents are acceptable proof of identity.