

Survivors of Domestic Violence: Applying for health coverage

Are you living with or fleeing domestic violence and having trouble applying for health care? You can apply for health care coverage any time through *Washington Healthplanfinder*, even outside of open enrollment.

How do I apply for health coverage through *Washington Healthplanfinder*?

- ✦ Online: Go to *Washington Healthplanfinder* at wahealthplanfinder.org
- ✦ Phone: Call Customer Support at 1-855-923-4633 (TTY:1855-627-9604)
 - ✦ Language support available in over 200 languages
- ✦ Paper: hca.wa.gov/health-care-application
- ✦ In-person: Local resources who, at no additional cost, can help you apply for health coverage
 - ✦ *Washington Healthplanfinder* Navigator or Tribal Assister

When can I apply for coverage through *Washington Healthplanfinder*?

If you are living with or fleeing domestic violence, you can apply for health coverage at any time throughout the year. There are no timeline limitations, such as during open enrollment.

What if I am currently enrolled in health coverage through *Washington Healthplanfinder* with my abuser and need to apply for coverage on my own?

To complete an application on your own, you need to be removed from the application you share with the abuser. To do this, call one of the customer service centers listed below, based on coverage.

Washington Apple Health (Medicaid) coverage:

- ✦ Contact an Apple Health representative at hca.wa.gov/assets/free-or-low-cost/area_representatives.pdf

Qualified Health Plans:

- ✦ *Washington Healthplanfinder*: 1-855-923-4633

Caution: Your abuser will get notification by email or letter that a change has been made to the shared application. Notifications will be sent as soon as the next day.

Can I enroll in separate health coverage from my spouse who is my abuser?

Yes. If you are married, separated, or in a registered domestic partnership with your abuser, you can enroll in separate health coverage. On the *Washington Healthplanfinder* application, when you are asked to provide your tax filing status, indicate that you are "Single Filing Taxes." Federal guidelines state that you can do this without fear of an IRS penalty.

Will the information I provide on my new application be shared with my abuser?

No. Your application is confidential and your information will not be shared with any third party, without your written consent.

What if I can't provide my or my children's Social Security number, due to domestic violence?

- ✦ For Apple Health you can have this requirement waived.
- ✦ For a Qualified Health Plan, you may be given 95 days of conditional eligibility to provide verification. If you can show a good faith effort in providing verification, you may be given more time.

What if I don't have access to my proof of citizenship or immigration status?

If you have a Social Security Number, *Washington Healthplanfinder* will ask you to provide it because it can electronically verify eligibility. If you do not, you can still get health care coverage and you will be asked later to provide acceptable documents to prove identity. **View a full list of acceptable identification documents.**

Do I have options if I am undocumented or don't meet immigration requirements?

Everyone who lives in Washington state has the opportunity to access health and dental insurance through *Washington Healthplanfinder*, regardless of immigration status.

Apple Health

If you are over 19 years of age, you may qualify for Apple Health Expansion (starting July 2024). Learn more at hca.wa.gov/apple-health-expansion.

Children and pregnant individuals may qualify for Apple Health coverage regardless of their immigration status. View eligibility requirements for **children**, **pregnant individuals**, and **After-Pregnancy Coverage** to see if you qualify. If you don't qualify for Apple Health coverage, you may qualify for **Family Planning Only** coverage which covers various contraceptive methods and other family planning services.

Qualified Health Plans and Cascade Care Savings options for immigrants

You can shop for and purchase qualified health and dental plans. Learn more about **immigrant health care and other cost saving options**. Survivors of domestic violence qualify for a **special enrollment period** and can apply for coverage outside of open enrollment.

How do I apply for health coverage, if my or my children's Social Security numbers and/or names have changed?

If a Social Security number and/or name cannot be verified through *Washington Healthplanfinder*, you will be asked to provide additional documentation.

I participate in the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP). Can I apply for health coverage through *Washington Healthplanfinder*?

Yes. Enter your ACP PO Box number as your "Home Address." After you enter the ACP address, a box will pop up asking for your "ACP Number" – enter your PMB or ID Number assigned by the Address Confidentiality Program. Another box will pop up when you e-sign the application asking for the zip code where you will seek medical care.

Important: If you participate in the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) and are approved for Apple Health, you are automatically enrolled to receive services in Thurston County.

If this is not convenient for you, please contact your managed care provider at the first of the month when you enroll. You will be able to select a Primary Care Provider (PCP) in the area where you reside. Inquiries may be directed to Health Care Authority at 1-800-562-3022 (ext. 16131)
