

Medicaid and CHIP member data released to ICE

FAQ for Medicaid and CHIP members

July 2025

What do we know about Medicaid member data being released to ICE?

- Last week we learned through news reports that the federal government has **created a data-sharing agreement** between the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), which includes Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).
- News reports state that ICE will be given access to the personal data of the nation's 79 million Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) enrollees until September 9.

How many Utahns could be included in the shared data?

- In Utah, there are approximately 350,000 Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) members every month.

Has Utah been asked to share data with ICE?

- No. Neither the Utah Department of Health and Human Services, nor the Utah Department of Workforce Services have been asked by ICE to share Medicaid or CHIP member data.

Are non-U.S. citizens or undocumented immigrants eligible for Medicaid or the CHIP?

- Only individuals who are U.S. citizens or individuals in lawful immigration status are eligible for traditional Medicaid and CHIP coverage. Individuals who are not lawfully residing in Utah are **not** eligible for traditional Medicaid.
- Applicants are required to attest to citizenship or immigration status. Additionally, the Department of Workforce Services verifies citizenship as part of the eligibility process.

Are there medical programs for non-U.S. citizens or undocumented immigrants?

- Yes. Under federal law, all states must provide an [Emergency Only](#) program, which temporarily provides a limited Medicaid benefit to non-citizens for coverage of life-threatening conditions.

- Utah also offers medical and dental benefits for non-U.S. citizen children called **State CHIP**. This program started last year and can only enroll up to 2,000 children. It is for children of working families who do not have other health insurance and cannot qualify for the traditional Medicaid or CHIP program due to citizenship status.
 - State CHIP member data is never reported to the federal government.

Does Medicaid or DWS report undocumented people to ICE?

- No. When someone in Utah applies for medical coverage, the application assures them that the state will not report undocumented people in their home.

Why does the state have personal information of undocumented immigrants?

- Some Utah families have mixed immigration status where some family members are U.S. citizens or have lawful immigration status, while others are undocumented immigrants.
- As part of the Utah application, applicants must provide information about their full household, including for individuals who are not applying for benefits. This information is used to determine eligibility based on their family size and poverty level.
- Also, there are two programs (Emergency Only Medicaid and State CHIP) for non-U.S. citizen immigrants. (See above for more information about these programs.)

Why does Medicaid send data about its members to the federal government?

- In compliance with federal rules for participation in the Medicaid program, Utah submits all Medicaid data to CMS in order to receive federal payment for services that are delivered through Medicaid.
- **Utah will be seeking clarification from CMS to understand why they shared this information with DHS.**

What data is sent to the federal government?

- Utah Medicaid sends comprehensive Medicaid enrollment and medical utilization data. This includes the name, date of birth, address, benefit information, and immigration status that is validated during the eligibility process. Additional information is included, however Utah Medicaid does not know the scope of what the federal government has agreed to share with ICE.

- Utah Medicaid shares this data monthly with the federal government.
 - The data **does not** include household members who were not enrolled in a program.
 - The data **does not** include denied applicants.
 - The data **does** include individuals covered under the Emergency Only Program.