

# Medi-Cal Changes Calendar

Federal & state benefit changes are coming to Medi-Cal, see below for upcoming deadlines:

## 2026

January 1



### Medi-Cal Enrollment Freeze Begins

Starting January 1, 2026 **Medi-Cal enrollment freeze begins**, impacting the expansion population, **undocumented individuals 19 years** & older.

A **three-month grace period** for re-enrollment is available for those who fall off.

**Exceptions:** foster youth under 26 and pregnant/post-pregnant people up to one year after pregnancy.

July 1



### Dental Benefits

Starting July 1, 2026 **full scope dental care benefits will end for Medi-Cal members ages 19+ who are undocumented.**

**Emergency dental care** for severe pain or infection and tooth extractions **remain covered for everyone**, regardless of immigration status.

**Undocumented pregnant individuals** keep full dental benefits during pregnancy and one year postpartum.

October 1



### New Restrictions for Lawfully Present Immigrants & Children

Starting October 1, 2026, **lawfully present immigrants (e.g., asylees, refugees, human trafficking victims) currently on full-scope Medi-Cal will shift to restricted-scope Medi-Cal.**

The following lawful immigrants will no longer be eligible for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) services:

- **Permanent residents under the 5 year bar**
- **Victims of human trafficking**
- **Domestic violence victims under U visas and T visas**

## 2027

January 1



### Medi-Cal Renewal Changes from Once to Twice a Year

Starting January 1, 2027, **Medi-Cal redetermination will occur every six months** for adults enrolled in Medi-Cal.

January 1



### Work Requirements Begin

Starting January 1, 2027, **Medi-Cal recipients ages 19-64 must fulfill** one of the following criteria to qualify:

- **Work 80 hours monthly**
- **Engage in a qualifying activity for an equivalent duration**
- **Or earn 80 hours' federal minimum wage**

July 1



### Medi-Cal Premiums Begin

Beginning on July 1, 2027, Medi-Cal **enrollees ages 19-59 who are undocumented will have a \$30 monthly premium.**

**Failure to pay within the 90-day grace period** will result in the loss of Full Scope Medi-Cal, but emergency Medi-Cal may still be available.