

FAQs for young adults leaving foster care after Jan 1, 2014**▶ Do I Qualify for the Medi-Cal program for former foster youth?**

If you were in foster care in ANY state on your 18th birthday or later, live in California now, and are younger than 26, you qualify for the Medi-Cal program for former foster youth. Your income does not matter.

**▶ I am in foster care right now. Do I need to reapply for Medi-Cal when I leave foster care?**

NO. If you leave foster care at age 18 or older after January 1, 2014, you do not need to reapply for Medi-Cal. You will be automatically moved into the Medi-Cal program for former foster youth when you leave care and will stay covered until 26.

If you left foster care before January 1, 2014, and do not have Medi-Cal right now, you can sign up using a simple, one-page application for former foster youth (called the MC 250A). Most counties have a specific phone number, office, or staff to help former foster youth. For more information, visit coveredtil26.childrennow.org/how-to-sign-up

**▶ I just left foster care and want to make sure I am now in the Medi-Cal program for former foster youth. What do I do?**

Contact your Medi-Cal worker or county social service office and ask if you are in the Medi-Cal program for former foster youth. Former foster youth should be assigned the '4M' aid code. If you are not in the Medi-Cal program for former foster youth, you can ask the county to move you into this program.

**▶ Will I need a new Medi-Cal card when I leave foster care?**

NO. You can continue to use the same Medi-Cal card (called a Benefits Identification Card or BIC) that you had when you were in foster care. If you can't find your card, you can ask the county to give you a new one.

▶ If I move to a new county, do I need to reapply for Medi-Cal?

NO, you do not need to reapply. But tell your Medi-Cal worker when you move. Your worker will update your address to make sure you do not have any problems seeing a doctor in your new county.

**▶ What's covered?**

Medical care, vision exams, dental care, substance abuse treatment, and mental health services. Former foster youth under 21 qualify for some extra benefits such as braces and glasses.

As a former foster youth, you can go to any doctor, therapist, hospital, or dentist that takes Medi-Cal.



Have more questions? Talk to your social worker or go to www.coveredtil26.org for more information.