

# ***South Carolina Strategies for*** **Medicaid Services and Immigrant Coverage**

## **Medicaid Administration**

States design their Medicaid programs using different administrative structures and oversight mechanisms. Approaches may include the use of managed care, medical loss ratio requirements, site-neutral payment policies, vendor partnerships for enrollment, and coordination with Medicare. This section assesses how states administer Medicaid to balance efficiency, oversight, and consumer protections. Strategies examined in this section include:

- States Utilize Medicaid Managed Care

- States Partner with Vendors for Medicaid Enrollment and/or Eligibility

- Medicaid-Medicare Integration

## **Medicaid Covered-Services**

State Medicaid programs vary in the range of services they cover beyond federal minimum requirements. Some states have expanded coverage to include fertility treatments, doula services, abortion care, gender-affirming services, hearing aids, vision care, and dental services. This section reviews the extent to which states provide enhanced benefits to improve access and health outcomes. Strategies examined in this section include:

- Medicaid Coverage for Fertility Services

- Medicaid Coverage for Doula Services

- Medicaid Coverage for Abortion Care

- Medicaid Coverage for Gender Affirming Care

- Medicaid Coverage for Hearing Aids

- Medicaid Coverage for Eye Exams and Glasses

- Medicaid Coverage for Dental Services



## Medicaid Eligibility

Eligibility rules determine who can access Medicaid coverage and the scope of their benefits. States can expand eligibility through Medicaid expansion, extend postpartum coverage, provide continuous eligibility, and adjust asset and income rules for specific populations. Some states also provide coverage to individuals reentering the community after incarceration. This section examines how states structure Medicaid eligibility to promote access and continuity of care. Strategies examined in this section include:

- Medicaid Expansion

- Retroactive Medicaid

- Continuous Eligibility for Adults Enrolled in Medicaid

- 12-Month Postpartum Coverage

- Medicaid Coverage for Re-Entry Populations

- Expanded Asset Limits for Adults Enrolled in a Medicaid Aged, Blind, or Disabled Program

- Life Insurance Exemptions for Eligibility in Medicaid for Aged, Blind and Disabled Program

- Retirement Account Exemptions for Eligibility in Medicaid for Aged, Blind and Disabled Program

## Immigrant Coverage

States may extend coverage to immigrants who are otherwise excluded from federal programs, such as undocumented children or adults. Additional policies include state-funded options for prenatal, postpartum, or child health coverage, as well as coverage for lawfully present immigrants without a five-year waiting period. This section evaluates state actions to close coverage gaps for immigrant populations. Strategies examined in this section include:

- Coverage Options for Pregnant Immigrants (FCEP and Postpartum Coverage)

- Coverage for Immigrant Children without a Five-Year Bar

- State-Funded Coverage Options for Undocumented Children

- State-Funded Coverage Options for Undocumented Adults



Medicaid Services and Immigrant Coverage

Medicaid Administration

| Policy                                       | Status as of June 2025                                                                                       | Summary                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Medicaid Managed Care (MCO)                  | <div></div> State partners with MCOs to operate their Medicaid program                                       | Most Medicaid members receive coverage from an MCO.                                                     |
| Medicaid Vendor — Eligibility and Enrollment | <div></div> State contracts with a vendor for Medicaid enrollment or eligibility                             |                                                                                                         |
| Integrated Medicaid-Medicare                 | <div></div> State does not integrate Medicare-Medicaid to coordinate care for the dually eligible population | In 2026, South Carolina will integrate a highly integrated dual eligible special needs programs (HIDE). |



State Has Active Policy or Program



Policy or Program Partially Implemented



State Does Not Have an Active Policy or Program



No Source, or Limited Information Found

# Medicaid Services and Immigrant Coverage

## Medicaid Covered Services

| Policy                                        | Status as of June 2025                                                                                                                                              | Summary                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Medicaid Coverage for Fertility Services      | ❌ State Medicaid program does not cover infertility treatments or fertility preservation services                                                                   |                                                                                        |
| Medicaid Coverage for Doula Services          | ❌ The state Medicaid program does not reimburse doula services                                                                                                      |                                                                                        |
| Medicaid Coverage for Abortion Care           | ❌ State Medicaid program does not cover abortion care in their benefits package                                                                                     |                                                                                        |
| Medicaid Coverage for Transition-Related Care | ❌ State Medicaid program explicitly excludes coverage of transition-related care for adults                                                                         |                                                                                        |
| Medicaid Coverage for Hearing Aids            | 🟡 State Medicaid program covers hearing aids for some, but not all, adults (see notes)                                                                              | Hearing aid services are only covered for adults who are on the HASCI or ID/RD Waiver. |
| Medicaid Coverage for Eye Exams and Glasses   | 🟡 State Medicaid program covers only eye exams or eyeglasses but not both, or biannually or less frequently, or restricts coverage based on age or health condition |                                                                                        |
| Medicaid Coverage for Dental Services         | 🟡 State Medicaid program covers some dental services for adults (see notes)                                                                                         | South Carolina Medicaid does not offer coverage for dentures, root canals, or crowns.  |



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# Medicaid Services and Immigrant Coverage

## Medicaid Eligibility

| Policy                                                                | Status as of June 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Summary                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Medicaid Expansion                                                    |  State has not expanded Medicaid eligibility to 138% of the federal poverty level (FPL)                                                                                 | .                                                                                                                             |
| Retroactive Medicaid                                                  |  State retroactively extends Medicaid benefits 90 days prior to application date for all adult enrollees                                                                | .                                                                                                                             |
| Adult Medicaid Continuous Eligibility                                 |  State has not authorized 12-month continuous eligibility for non-pregnant adult Medicaid enrollees*                                                                    |                                                                                                                               |
| 12-Month Postpartum Coverage                                          |  State has authorized 12-month postpartum Medicaid coverage                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                               |
| Medicaid Available to People who are Incarcerated                     |  State has not authorized Medicaid coverage for justice-involved individuals while they are in a correctional setting*                                                  |                                                                                                                               |
| Medicaid Aged, Blind and Disabled (ABD) Asset Limits                  |  State has expanded the asset limit for Medicaid for the Elderly and Disabled eligibility beyond \$2,000 for an individual applicant and \$3,000 for joint applicants | South Carolina Medicaid has expanded its asset limit to \$9,660 for individual applicants and \$14,470 for joint applicants.  |
| Medicaid Aged, Blind and Disabled (ABD) Life Insurance Exemption      |  Life insurance exemption limits exceed \$1,500                                                                                                                       | South Carolina's Medicaid asset limit exemption for life insurance is \$10,000.                                               |
| Medicaid Aged, Blind and Disabled (ABD) Retirement Account Exemptions |  State exempts both applicants' and spouses' retirement savings from Medicaid eligibility determinations                                                              | Applicant and/or spouse's retirement account must be in payout status (i.e. generating monthly income) in order to be exempt. |



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Medicaid Services and Immigrant Coverage

Immigrant Coverage

| Policy                                                              | Status as of June 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Summary |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| From Conception to End of Pregnancy (FCEP)                          |  Does not cover pregnancy-related services through the CHIP From-Conception-to-End-of-Pregnancy (FCEP) Option or post-partum coverage |         |
| Immigrant Children without a Five-Year Bar                          |  State offers coverage for lawfully residing immigrant children without a five-year bar                                               |         |
| Pregnant Immigrants without a Five-Year Bar                         |  Offers coverage for lawfully residing pregnant immigrants without a five-year bar                                                    |         |
| State-Funded Coverage for Children Regardless of Citizenship Status |  Does not offer coverage for children regardless of immigration status                                                              |         |
| State-Funded Coverage for Adults Regardless of Citizenship Status   |  Does not offer coverage for adults regardless of immigration status                                                                |         |



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