



Big Change Coming: New Work Rules for Medical Assistance

Starting January 2027, some people with Medical Assistance (MA) will need to work, go to school, or do other activities to keep their MA. **Many people will NOT have to meet work rules if they are exempt.**

You are safe from the new rules if you are:

- A child (age 18 or younger)
- Age 65 and over
- On Medicare
- Getting SSI or SSDI
- In a household with taxable income over \$580 per month
- A parent or related caretaker of a child under 18* or disabled individual
- Pregnant, or were pregnant in the last 12 months
- In drug or alcohol treatment
- Getting Home and Community Based Services (also called “waiver” services)
- Getting disability-related Medical Assistance, including Medical Assistance for Workers with Disabilities (MAWD)
- “Medically frail” (we are still waiting for more details on what this means)

*Families with income under \$580 a month are not subject to work requirements because they are not in the “expansion population.” If they have income over \$580, they are exempt as noted above.

If none of these apply to you, you may have to do work activities.

Starting January 2027:

- **At application:** you may have to show that you did least 80 hours of work, school, job training or community service (or a combination of these activities) during the month before the month you apply.
- **At renewal:** you may have to show that you did at least 80 hours of work, school, job training, or community service (or a combination of these activities) for at least one month since your last renewal or application.
- **Can’t show 80 hours?** You can instead show that you met one of the exemptions listed above.

Some rules are still not clear. We are waiting for the government to clarify some work requirement rules, including the rules about who is medically frail. A lawsuit filed on June 29, 2026 might also change some work requirement rules. CLS will provide updates as soon as possible. Check out our website for the latest information: [**clsphila.org/MAchanges**](https://clsphila.org/MAchanges)