

## Changes in Medi-Cal Proof of Citizenship and Identity Requirements For U.S. Citizens and Nationals

**If you are not a U.S. citizen, these changes do not apply to you.**

A new law says *most* Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are U.S. citizens or nationals must show proof of citizenship and proof of identity. The proof must be original or copies that have been certified by the issuing agency.

**The new law does *not* apply to U.S. citizens or nationals in any of these categories:**

- Anyone with:
  - Supplemental Security Income (SSI) (past or present)
  - Medicare
  - Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
  - Social Security Retirement and Survivors Insurance (RSI – Title II) based on their own disability
- Anyone under 21 asking for Minor Consent Services
- Babies born to women on Medi-Cal
- Children in Foster Care or Adoption Assistance
- Babies in the Abandoned Baby Program
- CalWORKs Beneficiaries

If you are a U.S. citizen or national, but not in one of the above groups, you must provide proof of citizenship and identity at the next annual redetermination of your Medi-Cal eligibility, unless the county already has the proof. See below.

### Many kinds of proof of citizenship and identity are acceptable.

The easiest way to provide *both* proof of citizenship and identity is with **one** of these documents:

- U.S. Passport issued without limitation (*expired ones are acceptable*), or
- Certificate of Naturalization (*N-550 or N-570*), or
- Certificate of U.S. Citizenship (*N-560 or N-561*)

If you do *not* have one of these documents, you will have to provide both proof of citizenship and identity. See back for a list of acceptable kinds of proof of citizenship and identity.

### Do U.S. nationals need to provide proof of citizenship and identity?

Yes. U.S. nationals include people born in American Samoa (including Swains Island) and certain people from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

### What if I am NOT a U.S. citizen?

If you are not a U.S. citizen or national, you only need to provide the same documents that were required before. Nothing has changed.

### When do I have to provide proof of citizenship and identity?

You must provide this proof at the next annual redetermination of your Medi-Cal eligibility.

#### **We may be able to get proof of citizenship for you.**

If you were born in California, the county may be able to get your birth record. (A birth record is proof of citizenship.) If the county finds your birth record, you must still provide proof of identity.

Ask your county about getting proof of citizenship if you were not born in California.

### Will my Medi-Cal benefits continue?

Your Medi-Cal benefits will continue if you meet all other eligibility requirements and make a reasonable effort to provide proof of citizenship and identity.

*Important!* You must tell your eligibility worker you are trying to get the proof.

### Do I have to provide proof every year?

No. You only need to provide the proof once.

### Questions?

If you have questions about proof of citizenship or identity, call your local social services office or eligibility worker.

## Acceptable Citizenship and Identity Documents

The easiest way for U.S. citizens or nationals to provide *both* proof of citizenship and identity is with **one** of these documents:

- U.S. Passport issued without limitation (expired ones are acceptable)
- Certificate of Naturalization (N-550 or N-570)
- Certificate of U.S. Citizenship (N-560 or N-561)

**– OR –**

*If you do not have one of the documents above, provide...*

**One** citizenship document from this column **AND One** identity document from this column

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ U.S. Birth Certificate</li> <li>❖ Certification of Report of Birth (<i>DS-1350</i>)</li> <li>❖ Report of Birth Abroad of a U.S. Citizen (<i>FS-240</i>)</li> <li>❖ State Department Certification of Birth (<i>FS-545 or DS-1350</i>)</li> <li>❖ U.S. Citizen Identification Card (<i>I-197 or I-179</i>)</li> <li>❖ American Indian Card (<i>I-872</i>)</li> <li>❖ Northern Marianas Card (<i>I-873</i>)</li> <li>❖ Final adoption decree showing a U.S. place of birth</li> <li>❖ Proof of employment by the U.S. civil service before June 1, 1976</li> <li>❖ U.S. military service record that shows a U.S. place of birth</li> <li>❖ U.S. hospital record established at the time of the person's birth *</li> <li>❖ Life, health, or other insurance record *</li> <li>❖ Federal or State census record that shows the applicant's age and U.S. citizenship or place of birth</li> <li>❖ Seneca Indian tribal census record *</li> <li>❖ Bureau of Indian Affairs tribal census record of the Navajo Indians *</li> <li>❖ U.S. State Vital Statistics birth registration notification*</li> <li>❖ An amended U.S. public birth record (amended more than 5 years after the person's birth) *</li> <li>❖ Statement signed by doctor or midwife present at the time of birth *</li> <li>❖ Admission papers from a nursing or skilled care facility, or other institution that shows a U.S. place of birth</li> <li>❖ Medical record (not an immunization record) *</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Driver's license issued by a U.S. State or Territory with a photograph or other identifying information</li> <li>❖ School Identification card with a photograph</li> <li>❖ U.S. Military I.D. card or draft record</li> <li>❖ Federal, state or local government I.D. card with same identifying information as a driver's license</li> <li>❖ U.S. Military dependent identification card</li> <li>❖ A U.S. passport (issued with limitation)</li> <li>❖ Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood or other U.S. American Indian/Alaska Native Tribal document</li> <li>❖ U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner Card</li> <li>❖ School, daycare, or nursery school records for a child under 16</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

For a child under 16 who did not provide an *Affidavit of Citizenship*, you may submit:

- ❖ An Affidavit of the child's identity signed by the child's parent or guardian.
- ❖ A Medi-Cal application or the Healthy Families/Medi-Cal joint application that shows the child's date and place of birth, and is signed by the child's parent or guardian.

*Note:* Expired identity documents are acceptable proof of identity.

\* *Must be dated at least 5 years before your 1st Medi-Cal application and show a U.S. place of birth.*

*You must provide a document as high on the list as you can*

*If you **cannot** provide any of these citizenship documents...*

*Ask two adults to fill out and sign an **Affidavit of Citizenship**. Both adults must have proof of their own identity and U.S. citizenship, and only one of them may be related to you.*