

be healthy

Health News from Cover The Kids and Child Action, Inc.



be ready

Providing Proof in its Original Form

New Medi-Cal documentation requirements for U.S. citizens and nationals

If you are on Medi-Cal, a new Federal law has changed the eligibility process and now requires families to provide original documents (birth certificates, photo identification) to continue their Medi-Cal coverage. New applicants are encouraged to provide copies of these documents during the application process and be prepared to show originals at a later time. Families will need to provide original proof, within reasonable time, when it is requested by an eligibility worker.

If you cannot provide them by the time of the redetermination renewal an extension can be requested; however, your Medi-Cal coverage will be limited until proof is provided (limited services only cover emergency, pregnancy and long term care). Full Scope benefits would become effective again after the proof is provided.

Once you have provided proof, you have satisfied the requirement and it does not need to be repeated.

Forms of documentation proving citizenship: (1 form required)

- U.S. Birth Certificate
- U.S. Citizen Identification Card
- Statement signed by doctor or midwife present at birth
- Medical record
- Health Insurance Record
- U.S. Hospital Record
- Final Adoption Decree



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Documentation

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Forms of documentation proving identity: (1 form required)

- U.S. Driver's License
- School Identification Card
- U.S. Military Identification Card
- U.S. Passport
- Hospital Record

(Expired identity documents are acceptable proof)

Children exempt from these documentation requirements include:

- Infants born to Mothers on Medi-Cal (Medi-Cal covered the delivery)
- Children in foster care, adoption assistance or Kin-Gap
- Infants in the Abandoned Baby Program
- Children receiving CalWORKs, SSI, Medicare, SS Disability Insurance, SS Retirement and Survivors Insurance
- Children Under 21 years old applying for Minor Consent Services

Only one form of proof required for:

- Children under 16 years old when a signed Medi-Cal application including a date and place of birth is submitted.
- Children over 16 years old when one of the following documents is provided:
 - * U.S. Passport
 - * Certificate of Naturalization
 - * Certificate of U.S. Citizenship

If one of these documents is NOT available, two forms of documentation are required to show proof of citizenship & identity. For youth under 18 years old, a signed affidavit may be used in place of a school I.D. or driver's license when not available.

Ways to provide the proof of documents:

- Bring them into the County office and have them make copies
- Mail the originals to your eligibility worker and they will make copies and mail them back to you. Use caution when mailing original documents. They may be difficult and expensive to replace.
- Provide certified copies by an approved issuing agency
- Tell your eligibility worker you have received services from another program where DRA requirements were enforced

If documentation is NOT available:

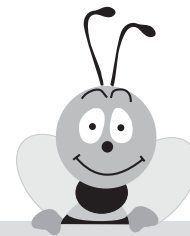
You can provide another form of acceptable documentation, or ask your eligibility worker for other options. Visit www.medi-cal.ca.gov and search DRA forms.

For children born in California, the county office may be able to use birth records to verify a birth. This process is free. You can request this option by downloading a form available at www.medi-cal.ca.gov search DRA forms. You may also obtain birth certificates from vital records, certificate fees apply. For children born out of state, visit www.vitalrec.com and click on the state your child was born to contact the vital records office.

If you need further assistance to provide proof of citizenship or identity for you or your child, help is available by contacting:

- Your eligibility worker
- Cover the Kids at 1-866-850-4321
- Child Action, Inc.'s Health Insurance Coordinator at (916) 369-3335
- Your Certified Application Assistor who submitted your original Medi-Cal application

Source: Medi-Cal question and answers to the DRA updated 09/2008.



Healthy Families Program Changes

Effective February 1, 2009, monthly premiums have increased. If you are affected by the changes, you should have received a notice by mail. If you would like to know how you may possibly lower your premium, review page 9 of Child Action, Inc. Winter 2008-2009 newsletter available at www.childaction.org. Also, new income eligibility guidelines go into effect April 1, 2009. Visit www.healthfamilies.ca.gov for more details.



be helpful

Sort and Store

Encourage your children to get involved in organizing the household. Children can choose a sort-and-store job and then be given the responsibility to maintain it. Ask them to organize recyclables, small toys, DVDs, hygiene products, clothing items, games and more using recycled items such as:

- Butter tubs
- Cereal boxes
- Oatmeal containers
- Plastic food storage bags
- Shoe boxes
- Boxes from businesses and grocery stores
- Milk crates

Children can decorate these items with paint, colored paper or stickers to match their room and style. Don't forget to label the containers! During this fun organization frenzy, children learn sorting skills (what belongs with what), prioritizing, responsibility, a feeling of contribution to the family chores and pride in taking care of their own materials. Begin recycling, if you are not doing so already, so that these new sorting skills are rewarded when you turn in the items for cash. This cash can go toward a family entertainment fund for activities such as dining out or movie nights.



Keeping Track of Important Documents



be organized

More programs now require families to show original documents to establish their eligibility and enrollment for a variety of programs. Obtaining these documents can be expensive and time-consuming, so once you have them you want to keep them safe and accessible!

Here are some tips:

Organize documents by family member using plastic food storage bags which will protect documents from getting wet or folded.

- Store documents in a safe place where they will be out of reach of children, away from pets and safe from natural disasters.
- Make sure all personal information is also kept confidential to protect from identity theft. Designate a place to keep your documents up high to protect from floods, but is accessible enough that you can easily re-file documents after use and grab them quickly if you had to evacuate your home.



be cavity-free

Did you know that tooth decay affects children in the United States more than any other chronic infectious disease? Keep your children smiling with good dental hygiene and oral health care. We encourage you to use the tips below to help your child develop good oral health habits. Don't forget to stay on schedule with your child's routine cleaning and examination appointments. Call and make an appointment today! If you have questions regarding your dental coverage, contact your healthcare provider.



Tips for getting kids to brush

- Brush your teeth together
- Ask your child if he would like to begin with his top or bottom teeth
- Brush in the morning and the evening as a part of your daily routine
- Use small amounts of fluoride toothpaste that your child likes
- Allow your child to select her own soft-bristle toothbrush and toothpaste
- Make funny faces while brushing
- Count your child's teeth as you help him brush
- Use a timer to make sure you brush long enough
- End with hugs, kisses and a clean mouth!



be certified

Recruiting Child Care Providers to Become CAA's

Child Action, Inc. and Cover the Kids are in partnership to provide access to affordable health coverage to all children in Sacramento County. Child care providers can join the partnership to become certified to assist families in the community with their health insurance applications.

Our partnership has recruited 13 CAAs as of December 2008 and has paid \$300 to 2 ambitious child care providers who have completed their first 5 enrollments.



Families receive:

- Assistance with the application process
- Support to ensure that their children stay enrolled in the program

Child care providers receive:

- A minimum reimbursement of \$50 per successful enrollment
- Support, updates and technical assistance from the CAA network
- Incentives for participating in monthly and quarterly challenges
- Lakeshore gift cards for meeting achievement goals

For more information how your provider can join the partnership and begin helping uninsured children, please contact Child Action, Inc.'s Health Insurance Coordinator, Nicole Ullrich at (916) 369-3335 or nicole.ullrich@childaction.org.

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