

## 599 CHIP

### Medical Coverage for Unborn Children

#### What is 599 CHIP?

The 599 CHIP program is designed for unborn children of pregnant women who are otherwise ineligible for coverage under Medicaid or CHIP.

This program is not full Medicaid coverage and only applies to prenatal care and pregnancy-related services. These services are connected to the health of the unborn child, including labor and delivery.

#### Eligibility for 599 CHIP

Individuals who are interested in the 599 CHIP program must first apply for Medicaid. There is not a separate application for the program.

Pregnant women who are ineligible to receive medical coverage under Medicaid could be eligible for the 599 CHIP program. These are some common scenarios:

- Pregnant women who are ineligible for Medicaid due to income being above 197% of the Federal Poverty Level
- Pregnant minors if their financially responsible parent/parents' income makes them ineligible for Medicaid
- Pregnant women who are ineligible for Medicaid due to immigration status

In considering 599 CHIP eligibility, DHHS looks at:

- Income of the pregnant woman and the eligible countable income in the household of the unborn child, such as spouse or another child (if applicable)
  - A pregnant minor's parent's income is not included in the review
- The pregnant woman must meet Nebraska residency requirements
  - The unborn child will follow the residency of the pregnant woman
- If the pregnant woman currently has credible health insurance
  - Insurance that does not provide prenatal or maternity care is not considered credible

#### After the Baby is Born

Once the baby is born, 599 CHIP cases are closed at the end of the birth month, or the end of the following month if the child is born at the end of the month. The newborn(s) are then reviewed for Medicaid eligibility without needing a new application.

If the parents are unmarried, but the father is in the household and legal paternity is established, his income is considered in the newborn(s) Medicaid eligibility.

Continuous eligibility for 599 CHIP begins at the initial determination as an unborn. Once the baby is born, ongoing eligibility is assessed.

- If the newborn is determined eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, a new continuous eligibility period begins, allowing 12 months of continuous eligibility from the month of birth.
- If the newborn is determined to not be eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, the newborn will receive the remainder of their 12-month continuous eligibility period from the month they were first approved in 599 CHIP.

## How to Apply

Individuals can apply for Medicaid in the following ways:

- Online at [www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov](http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov),
- Over the phone by calling ACCESS Nebraska at:
  - Omaha: (402) 595-1178
  - Lincoln: (402) 473-7000
  - Toll Free: (855) 632-7633
  - TDD: (402) 471-7256,
- By paper application (which may be downloaded from [AccessNebraska.gov](http://AccessNebraska.gov)):
  - By fax at (402) 742-2351,
  - By email at [DHHS.ANDICenter@nebraska.gov](mailto:DHHS.ANDICenter@nebraska.gov),
  - By mail at P.O. Box 2992, Omaha, NE 68103-2992; or
- In person at a DHHS local office