

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON PUBLIC HEALTH INSURANCE OPTIONS FOR TEENS IN NEW YORK

## 1. If I am a teenager living in NY *without* proof of immigration status, can I get health insurance?

**Yes.** If you live in N.Y. and you do not have proof of U.S. citizenship or naturalization, you can still get some government-funded health insurance, if you meet the eligibility requirements above, through:

- **Child Health Plus B (CHPlus B)** – Applicants must disclose their immigration status, but parents do not need to disclose their own statuses to get CHPlus B for a teen child
- **PCAP** – Applicants do not need to disclose their immigration status to apply
- **Emergency Medicaid**
- **Family Planning Extension Program (FPEP)**

## 2. If I am a teenager living in NY *with* proof of my citizenship or immigration status, what kind of health insurance can I get?

If you live in NY, have proof of U.S. citizenship or naturalization, and meet the eligibility requirements above, you can also get government-funded health insurance through:

- **Medicaid**
- **CHPlus A**
- **Family Planning Benefit Program (FPBP)**

## 3. What if I am unable or ineligible to enroll in public health insurance?

Many clinics will work with uninsured patients who need reproductive health services to charge them based on their ability to pay.

## 4. Do government insurance programs report immigrants to the authorities?

**No.** Information should not be shared between state government or health care provider and USCIS. When a health insurance program asks for an applicant's immigration status, it is only to determine who will pay for the care.

## 5. Can I be denied U.S. citizenship for lawfully receiving benefits?

**No.** No one may be denied citizenship for lawfully receiving government benefits, including health care. Also, relying on public health insurance does not affect any pending or later applications for citizenship.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS UNDER 16 IN NEW YORK

### 6. If I am under 16 in NY and I have or can request my birth certificate, but I do not have a separate identity document, is there anything else can I use to prove my identity?

**Yes.** In New York, you may use school records or a signed affidavit by a parent or guardian stating your date and place of birth<sup>16</sup>

If you do not have or cannot obtain any other identity documents, bring at least two of the following:

- School ID card with a photograph
- Military dependent's ID card if it contains a photograph
- School record showing date and place of birth and parent(s) name
- Clinic, doctor or hospital record showing date of birth
- Daycare or nursery school record showing date and place of birth<sup>17</sup>