

The Remaining Uninsured: *Immigrant Communities*

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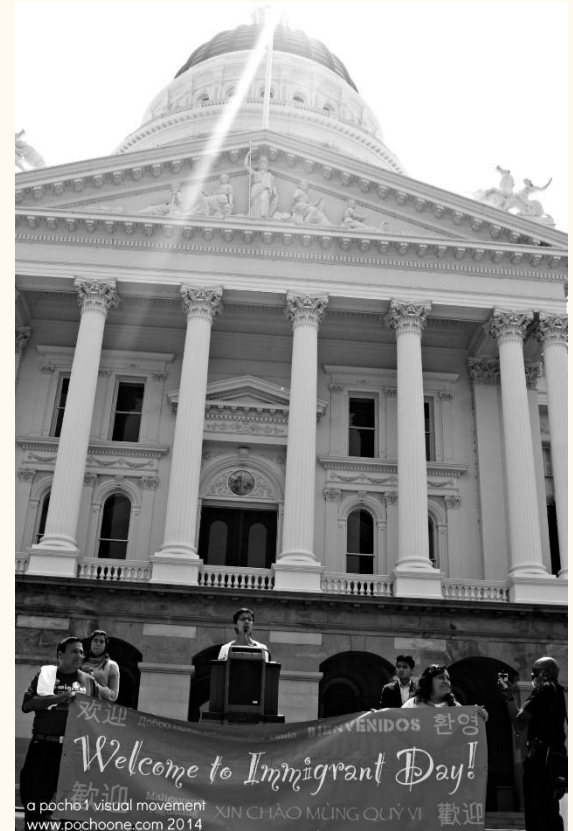


Founded in 1996, CIPC is a non-partisan, non-profit statewide organization that seeks to inform public debate and policy decisions on issues affecting the state's immigrants and their families in order to improve the quality of life for all Californians. CIPC engages in policy advocacy, and also provides technical assistance, training and education on immigrant issues.

Road Map



- I. Context: Immigration in the U.S. and California
- II. Healthcare Access for Immigrant Communities
- III. What's Next?



CONTEXT: IMMIGRATION IN THE U.S. & CALIFORNIA

Immigrants in the U.S.

- 11 million undocumented immigrants nationwide
 - 2.7 million are in the state of CA
 - Anti-immigrant climate
- Deportation Raids
 - 2 million deportations under the President Obama Administration
 - Fear and mistrust in immigrant communities



CA State Policies

- 2013 was the Year of the Immigrant in California. In our state we passed the following bills that eases some fear and provides eligibility.
 - California Driver's License-AB 60 (Alejo)
 - This bill would provide access to a driver's license for all California residents regardless of immigration status.
 - TRUST Act- AB 4 (Ammiano)
 - This bill sets a minimum standard to ensure that community members with most low-level offenses are not wastefully held in local jails for extra time for deportation purposes.
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HEALTH ACCESS FOR IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

Immigrants and Covered California

■ Barriers

- ❑ Mixed status families – confusion about eligibility, fear, lack of information.
- ❑ Complexity – navigating eligibility based on *both* immigration status & income levels
- ❑ Monitoring of language and cultural access

■ Eligibility

- ❑ Lawful immigrants are eligible for the Exchange and subsidies/assistance.
- ❑ Undocumented immigrants and individuals granted relief through DACA are ineligible to purchase coverage through Exchange even at full cost

Undocumented Immigrants and Access

- **Remaining Uninsured, including undocumented**
 - ❑ Patchwork of County coverage for undocumented
 - ❑ Some counties offer coverage, other counties don't offer any coverage, and some offer limited services
 - Example: Fresno MISP Program
 - ❑ How many uninsured are there?
 - After full implementation of the ACA, there will be 3-4 million Californians who remain uninsured
 - About 1 million will be undocumented Californians

Our Stories: Immigration Relief Eligible Youth & Health Access in California

Itzel Martinez, a 20-year-old DACA student living in Oxnard, Calif., desperately wants health insurance because she knows what it means to be without it.

A kitchen accident she suffered last year that resulted in a trip to the emergency room to stitch up her split lip set her farm-working parents back by \$1,500. To this day, they haven't been able to get a collection agency off their back.

Martinez, one of five children, said that when she went to the Ventura County Human Services Agency a few months ago to apply for Medi-Cal -- the state's name for the health insurance program for low-income people known as Medicaid in the rest of the nation -- she was told that she only qualified for restricted Medi-Cal because of her DACA status. Restricted Medi-Cal covers only emergency and pregnancy-related care and is given to most anyone who applies for Medi-Cal. *[from [New America Media](#)]*



CA Programs Available Regardless of Immigration Status

- **Emergency Medi-Cal**
 - Prenatal care (Medi-Cal)
 - Access for Infants and Mothers (AIM)
 - Long-term care
 - Early Breast Cancer Detection
 - Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment
 - California Children's Services (CCS)
 - Children's Health Initiatives
 - Health Programs in some counties (Healthy SF, Healthy Way LA Unmatched)
 - **Community clinics**
 - Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP) and CHDP "Gateway"
 - Family PACT
 - Minor consent services
 - Mental health services
 - Regional Center Services
 - Women Infants and Children (WIC)
 - School lunch and breakfast
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Immigrant Eligibility: Terms

- **Fed. Categories of Immigrants: “Qualified” and “Not Qualified”**
 - Federal law excludes people in both categories from many benefits
 - “Qualified” immigrants include Lawful Permanent residents (green card), Refugees, Parolees, etc
 - All other immigrants, including undocumented immigrants & many lawfully present, are “not qualified”
- **Federal benefits are generally denied to most “not qualified” immigrants**
- **In California: “PRUCOL” (permanently residing under color of law)**
 - Not an immigration status, but a benefit eligibility category
 - May include persons: with immediate relative visa petition, in deferred action status, stay of deportation

PROGRAM	“QUALIFIED” IMMIGRANTS ¹ WHO ENTERED THE U.S. BEFORE AUG. 22, 1996	“QUALIFIED” IMMIGRANTS WHO ENTERED THE U.S. ON OR AFTER AUG. 22, 1996	“NOT QUALIFIED” IMMIGRANTS ²
Full Scope Medi-Cal Seniors, persons with disabilities, children, parents.	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible only if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanently residing in the U.S. under color of law (PRUCOL), or • Victim of trafficking, applicant for U visa or U visa holder,⁶ or • American Indian born in Canada or other Native American tribal member born outside U.S.
Emergency Medi-Cal <i>Includes labor/delivery.</i>	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
Medi-Cal Prenatal Care	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
Access for Infants and Mothers (AIM)	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP) and the CHDP “Gateway”	Eligible <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children can receive up to two months of full-scope Medi-Cal, which can be extended if they file a Medi-Cal or Healthy Families application. 	Eligible <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children can receive up to two months of full-scope Medi-Cal, which can be extended if they file a Medi-Cal or Healthy Families application. 	Eligible <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children of all statuses can receive up to two months of full-scope Medi-Cal.¹¹ PRUCOL children can continue full-scope services if they file a Medi-Cal application.
California Children’s Services (CCS)	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
Breast and Cervical Cancer Programs <i>For women with breast or cervical cancer who do not have a disability.</i>	Eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal services.	Eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal services.	Eligible for cancer treatment, for a limited time: 18 mos. for breast cancer; 24 mos. for cervical cancer. (But victims of trafficking can get full-scope Medi-Cal.)
Medi-Cal Long-Term Care	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Court order prevents state from denying long-term care services based on immigration status.

¹¹ Children currently enrolled in “emergency only” Medi-Cal cannot get full-scope services, but can receive periodic “well-child” exams at no cost.

Health Program Eligibility Chart for California Immigrants

December 2013

PROGRAM		Full-Scope Medi-Cal	Restricted ¹ Medi-Cal	Covered CA (* denotes eligibility for Advanced Premium Tax Credit)	Child Health and Disability Prevention Program	Family Planning, Access, Care, and Treatment	Access for Infants and Mothers	Women, Infants, and Children
Immigrant Benefit Eligibility Category	Lawful Permanent Resident	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible (100% to 400% of the FPL*)	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
	Refugees & Asylees ²	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible (100% to 400% of the FPL*)	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
	PRUCOLs & “lawfully present” under U.S. HHS rules ³	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible (0% to 400% of the FPL*)	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
	Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) ⁴	Eligible	Eligible	Not Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
	Survivors of Human Trafficking or Serious Crime (T or U Visa Holders) ⁵	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible (100% to 400% of the FPL*)	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible
	Other Non-immigrant Visa Holders ⁶	Maybe ⁷	Maybe ⁷	Maybe ⁸	Maybe ⁷	Maybe ⁷	Maybe ⁷	Maybe ⁷
	Undocumented Immigrants ⁹	Not Eligible ¹⁰	Eligible	Not Eligible ¹¹	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible	Eligible

DHCS Form MC 13 – Verify PRUCOL Status

STATEMENT OF CITIZENSHIP, ALIENAGE, AND IMMIGRATION STATUS

Print name of applicant (the applicant is the person who wants Medi-Cal)	Date
Print name of person acting for applicant	Relationship to applicant

SECTION A: MEDI-CAL BENEFITS TO CITIZENS AND ALIENS

Citizens and nationals of the United States who meet all eligibility requirements may receive full Medi-Cal benefits.

Aliens who meet all eligibility requirements may receive either full Medi-Cal benefits (if they are in a satisfactory immigration status) or restricted benefits limited to emergency and pregnancy-related services (if they are not in a satisfactory immigration status).

Satisfactory immigration status and full Medi-Cal benefits for aliens: Federal and state law provide that *full* Medi-Cal benefits may be received only by aliens who are in a satisfactory immigration status and who meet all eligibility requirements **including California residency**. Aliens are in a satisfactory immigration status if they are amnesty aliens with valid and current lawful temporary resident cards (I-688) or lawful permanent residents or permanently residing in the U.S. under color of law (PRUCOL). **The 16 PRUCOL categories are listed in SECTION B, question 5 below.**

Documented aliens not in a satisfactory immigration status who meet all eligibility requirements, **including California residency**, may receive restricted benefits (limited to emergency and pregnancy-related services).

Undocumented aliens who meet all eligibility requirements, **including California residency**, may receive restricted benefits (limited to emergency and pregnancy-related services).

Citizenship/immigration status information: Every person requesting Medi-Cal is required to provide information about his/her citizenship or immigration status. Immigration status information provided as part of the Medi-Cal application is confidential and cannot be used by the INS for immigration enforcement unless you are committing fraud.

Alien status documents and verification requirements: Aliens who claim to be in a satisfactory immigration status (SIS) for Medi-Cal purposes must present INS documents that show their immigration status if they have an INS document or are eligible to obtain one. Aliens who claim to be in an SIS, but who cannot obtain an INS document or replacement receipt (for example, aliens in the last PRUCOL category indicated in SECTION B below) should submit other evidence establishing their immigration status. INS documents will be verified by the INS. Aliens who do not have these documents with them, or who have unreadable documents, may bring us receipts which show that they have applied for replacements. Aliens will have 30 days to do this, or until their Medi-Cal application is ruled on, whichever is longer. If the alien is otherwise eligible, Medi-Cal will be issued during this period and while the submitted documentation is being verified by the INS. If none of the documents contains the applicant's photograph, they must show us an identity document which establishes that the applicant is the person named in the documents.

Social Security number requirement: Every person requesting Medi-Cal who has a Social Security number is asked to provide it to the county welfare department. U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, and aliens claiming to be in a satisfactory immigration status who do not have a Social Security number must apply for one and provide it to the county welfare department. Aliens in satisfactory immigration status for Medi-Cal purposes who need help applying for a Social Security number should ask their eligibility worker for assistance. Aliens who are not in a satisfactory immigration status and who do not have a Social Security number can still get restricted Medi-Cal if they meet all eligibility requirements.

SECTION B: CITIZENSHIP/IMMIGRATION STATUS DECLARATION

1. Is the applicant a citizen or national of the United States? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If the applicant is a citizen or a national of the United States, where was he/she born? _____
(city, state)

IF YOU ARE A CITIZEN OR NATIONAL OF THE UNITED STATES, GO DIRECTLY TO SECTION D. IF YOU ARE AN ALIEN, PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS 2, 3, AND 4 BELOW (AND QUESTION 5 IF YOU CLAIM TO BE PRUCOL) THEN COMPLETE SECTIONS C AND D. IF YOU ANSWER "NO" TO QUESTIONS 2, 3, OR 4 BECAUSE THOSE CATEGORIES DO NOT APPLY TO YOU, YOUR ANSWER IS CONFIDENTIAL. THIS INFORMATION CAN ONLY BE USED FOR MEDI-CAL PURPOSES AND CANNOT BE USED BY THE INS FOR IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT UNLESS YOU ARE COMMITTING FRAUD.

2. Is the applicant an amnesty alien with a valid and current I-688? ☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Is the applicant a lawful permanent resident? ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Is the applicant a PRUCOL alien? ☐ Yes ☐ No

IMPORTANT: All PRUCOL aliens must indicate their specific PRUCOL status in question 5.

5. If the applicant would qualify for Medi-Cal benefits as a PRUCOL alien, indicate the status category which entitles him/her to that classification:

- ☐ A conditional entrant admitted to the United States before April 1, 1980
- ☐ An alien paroled into the United States, including Cuban/Haitian entrants



WHAT'S NEXT?

Why is Health4All important?

- Though the state provides health care services through programs with limited scope or duration, and some counties provide coverage regardless of immigration status, **it is still not enough.**
 - Health Care system works better when everyone participates
 - Emergency room treatment is expensive
 - Cost Savings from other Health care spending
 - Healthy Parents, Thriving Families
 - Undocumented immigrants are a major economic engine for California, and contribute to the state's revenue
 - Health is a Human Right
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Health For All-SB 1005

■ What does the bill do?

- SB 1005 will expand access to health care coverage for all Californians, regardless of immigration status
 - **Full Scope Medi-Cal:** authorize enrollment in the Medi-Cal program
 - **Mirror Exchange:** offer insurance through a separate new health benefit exchange and provide premium subsidies and cost-sharing reductions to eligible individuals
 - SB 1005 will ensure that everyone in our communities has access to quality, affordable healthcare.
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No Healthcare? No Problem!



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