

FIX THE MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY & REDETERMINATION SYSTEM!

1 in every 4 Illinoisans Relies on Medicaid

ILLINOIS' MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY AND REDETERMINATION SYSTEM NEEDS YOUR HELP!

- People applying for Medicaid routinely have to wait months to find out if they have been approved, delaying access to medication, preventative care, and other treatment.
- Up to half of all those on Medicaid lose coverage each year despite still being eligible due to procedural issues like lost mail and system glitches.
- This situation causes harmful gaps in coverage that prevent eligible Illinoisans from getting the care they deserve and depend on to stay healthy.



IL LEGISLATORS: IMPLEMENT SOLUTIONS THAT WORK! SOLVE THIS CRISIS IN THE MEDICAID OMNIBUS BILL!

→ **Make Medicaid redeterminations simpler and less burdensome:**

- ◆ Maximize the redeterminations that are completed using an automated process that eliminates unnecessary paperwork and minimizes the need for beneficiary action (also known as ex parte redeterminations).
- ◆ Coordinate Medicaid with SNAP and other public benefits so that Medicaid eligibility is determined whenever other public benefits are reviewed.
- ◆ Establish a clear benchmark that Illinois should complete a majority of its Medicaid redeterminations using an ex parte process.

→ **Increase transparency and accountability:**

- ◆ Provide quarterly reports on Medicaid application processing and backlogs, ex parte redeterminations, and eligibility system challenges.
- ◆ Assess trends in enrollment and provide recommendations for improvement.
- ◆ Set specific timelines for the Department to achieve each policy reform.

→ **Develop a real-time eligibility determination system:**

- ◆ Increase real-time Medicaid eligibility determinations to reduce application backlogs and provide timely access to health care.

→ **Promote electronic communications and document submission:**

- ◆ Improve access to the electronic Manage My Case benefits management portals for consumers and providers.

For more information, contact:

Graciela Guzman, gguzman@heartlandalliance.org, (773) 270-2611;

Dan Rabbitt, drabbitt@heartlandalliance.org, (443) 401-6142;

Aditi Singh, asingh@aidschicago.org, (773) 383-3382;

Amber Kirchhoff, amber.kirchhoff@thresholds.org, (219) 670-4806



Protect Our Care – Illinois (POC-IL) is a coalition of 145+ organizations representing health care advocates, providers, consumers, and workers committed to protecting and building upon the benefits of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and Medicaid.