

Pregnancy Presumptive Eligibility

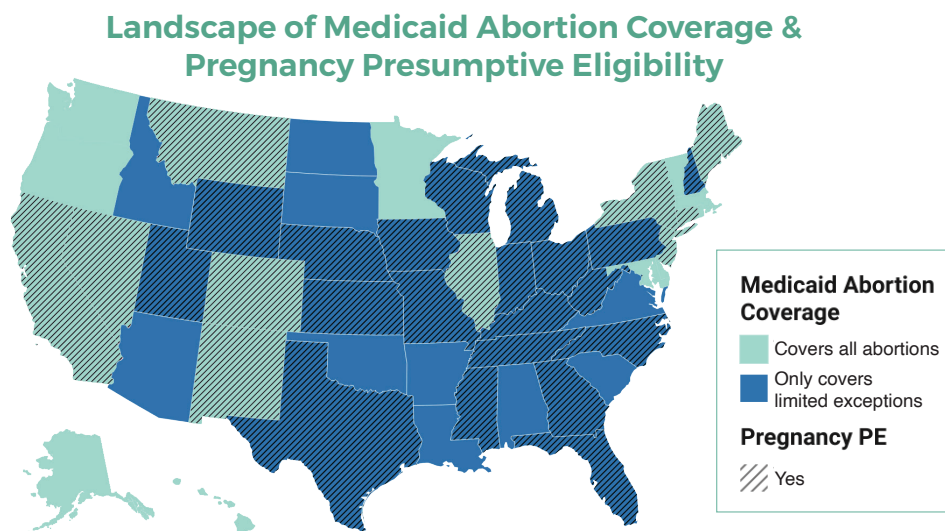
What is pregnancy presumptive eligibility (PE)? It's a state option to implement a screening process that provides pregnant individuals with immediate temporary Medicaid coverage for ambulatory prenatal care if that person is likely to be found eligible.

What determines whether or not someone is presumptively eligible? Pregnancy presumptive eligibility determinations are based on, at minimum, an individual's income, household size, and pregnancy status. States may opt to ask about state residency, citizenship and/or immigration status, but it is not required in order to get services and many do not include these questions.

Who does the presumptive eligibility screening? Qualified entities (QEs), also called qualified providers (QPs), make presumptive eligibility determinations. States determine what types of providers and organizations can become QEs but for pregnancy PE, they generally include community and rural health centers, physicians, hospitals, local health departments, and family planning agencies.

What is covered under ambulatory prenatal care?

States have flexibility in determining which services fall into this category – the exact scope of services varies depending on the state, but it can include abortions, prenatal check ups, lab tests, prescription drugs, counseling, and other services.



An Overview of The Pregnancy Presumptive Eligibility Screening Process

1. A pregnant person sees a qualified provider or entity
2. The qualified entity (QE) screens the patient based on self-attested data about their pregnancy status, income level, household size, and potentially residency, citizenship and/or immigration status.
3. The QE makes a real-time eligibility determination and immediately informs the patient whether or not they are presumptively eligible for Medicaid coverage.
4. If presumptively eligible, the patient receives immediate temporary coverage for ambulatory prenatal care and can receive same-day services or receive covered services from any Medicaid provider during the PE coverage period.

Reach out to Cat Duffy (duffy@healthlaw.org) if you have any questions