

DACA Recipients Get Health Care

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients in California are now eligible to enroll in Covered California, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Marketplace, a lifesaving program that our DACA community has been excluded from for far too long.

DACA recipients have been integral to our vibrant communities, contributing to every aspect of our daily lives, and thought leaders and innovators who are advancing our country. In addition, it is important to acknowledge that DACA recipients are part of our economic growth, contributing an estimated \$1.7 billion in taxes every year.

This recent decision made by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is an important step forward for our immigrant communities. Importantly, **Covered California** coverage is not considered in “public charge” determinations. In other words, getting healthcare through **Covered California** will not pose any challenges to the path to citizenship.

California is home to more than **528,300** people with DACA, the majority of whom are people of color. This reform is critical to helping California mitigate racial disparities in healthcare access.

The policy change could be even more impactful if it results in a “welcome mat effect.”

If California commits real resources to outreach to newly eligible people, our communities could see meaningful gains in Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program.

If you’d like to learn more, we can connect you with local experts who can discuss California preparedness and national experts through our partners at the Protecting Immigrant Families coalition. We can also connect you with spokespersons who can discuss healthcare needs among local immigrant families and the stakes for local families as federal litigation over DACA continues.

Meanwhile, we hope this information is helpful!