

MEDICAID MEMBERS

Hospitalized or Institutionalized Individuals

Medicaid rules are changing January 1, 2027. If you are hospitalized or institutionalized, you may qualify for an exemption from work or activity rules.

>> You May Qualify for an Exemption

You may be exempt if you are

- Living in a hospital
- Living in a nursing facility
- Living in a similar institutional or residential care setting
- Receiving non-institutional or outpatient services that keep you from being institutionalized (for example, Community Benefit members who do not meet the medically fragile exemption)

Please note:

- Exemption is **short term** and only applies during the institutional stay.
- Exemption status **ends** once you are no longer institutionalized.
- **You must request this exemption**, and HCA will allow you to self-attest for it.
- If you are **traveling outside of your community (45 miles or more from your residence) for at least 24 hours**, you may also qualify for this exemption for the duration of travel or treatment.
- If you are enrolled in Other Adult Medicaid, your coverage will renew every 6 months.

>> Substance Use Treatment Programs

- If you are actively participating in a drug addiction or alcohol treatment and rehabilitation program, you are exempt from work or activity rules for the duration of your treatment.

For More Information

 Visit **HCA.NM.GOV/KeepYourBenefitsNM** Chat online at **YES.NM.GOV** Call **1-800-283-4465** Visit a **local HCA Income Support Division office**