

SignUpNow is an initiative of the Virginia Health Care Foundation. It is supported by the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services and contributions from Virginia foundations, health systems, health insurers, and other organizations interested in helping eligible uninsured Virginians obtain needed health coverage.

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**Our message to people
around Virginia is simple...**

SignUpNow!

SignUpNow is designed to stimulate and support community-based efforts to enroll eligible Virginians in state-sponsored health insurance (the Medicaid and FAMIS programs). This includes the New Health Coverage for Adults, and coverage for children, pregnant women, and adults in Virginia's traditional Medicaid/FAMIS programs. We do this by providing:

Workshops to train paid and volunteer "application assisters" throughout the Commonwealth;

Comprehensive information and helpful resources such as a Tool Kit/Reference Manual and a quarterly newsletter;

Specific case-by-case assistance and problem solving for local workers helping individuals/families; and

Coordination and support to a large network of community workers, health care providers, state-level policy makers, and others.

Welcome to the *SignUpNow Tool Kit*

This *Tool Kit* has been created to enable staff and volunteers in a wide variety of community settings to assist families and individuals who want to apply for the health insurance available through Virginia's Medicaid or FAMIS programs.

Virginia was the 33rd state to expand its Medicaid program. Approximately 400,000 uninsured, low-income Virginians were estimated to be eligible for New Health Coverage for Adults, effective January 1, 2019. Of these, about 79% (or 280,000) live in families with incomes below the poverty level. They are typically people working in agriculture, retail, construction, housekeeping, childcare, landscaping, food service, or other jobs that do not offer health insurance.

Many have limited education or literacy skills, and need help completing the application and compiling required documentation. They may be uncomfortable with using computers or lack regular access to the internet, so will need help to successfully apply online. One-on-one assistance is critical to maximizing enrollment of these adults.

Virginia's Medicaid and FAMIS programs provide comprehensive health care coverage to those who fall into the following categories:

- **New Health Coverage for Adults,**
- **Medicaid for Pregnant Women and FAMIS MOMS**
- Low Income Families with Children (**LIFC**)
- **FAMIS and FAMIS Plus,** and
- Medicaid for Former Foster Care Youth (**FFC**)

Adults with incomes too high for these programs may be eligible for Virginia's family planning program, **Plan First**, or for financial help to purchase **health coverage via the Federal Health Insurance Marketplace** (Healthcare.gov).

Unfortunately, many families and individuals do not know about these programs. Or, if they do, they may not know they qualify. Many may have applied for this coverage in the past and been denied.

This *Tool Kit* contains program information, sample forms, resource lists, and specific, helpful guides and tools that are helpful when assisting individuals and families with their applications. In conjunction with the training provided by *SignUpNow* at community workshops or via its on-line modules, this manual will equip "helper" staff, volunteers, and communities to reach out and help eligible adults, children, and pregnant women apply for insurance programs critical to their health and well-being.

Take this Tool Kit with you wherever you might find an uninsured Virginian who might be eligible – that means everywhere! You'll always be ready to lend a helping hand!

Table of Contents

Section 1. Overview

New Health Coverage for Adults	1.1-1.3
FAMIS Plus and Medicaid for Pregnant Women	1.3-1.6
FAMIS	1.6-1.8
FAMIS MOMS	1.8-1.10
Low Income Families with Children (LIFC)	1.10-1.12
Medicaid for Former Foster Care Youth (FFC)	1.12-1.13

Section 2. Eligibility & Application

Non-financial Requirements	2.1-2.5
Financial Requirements	2.5-2.13
Application Procedures	2.14-2.29
Examples of Forms/Letters	2.30-2.50

Section 3. After Enrollment

Part I: New Health Coverage for Adults

Once Approved	3.1
Selecting a Provider	3.1-3.2
Using the DMAS ID & MCO Health Insurance Cards	3.3
Covered Services Overview	3.3
Cost Sharing	3.4
Period of Coverage & Reporting Requirements	3.4
Annual Renewal	3.4-3.5
Medicaid/FAMIS Plus Managed Care Enrollment Chart	3.6
Medicaid Managed Care Enrollment Choice Letter	3.7
Medicaid Medallion 4.0 MCO Comparison Chart	3.8
CCCP Plus MCO Comparison Chart	3.9
Sample Cancellation Notice	3.10
Sample "Ex Parte" Renewal Approval	3.11-3.12
Renewal Form	3.47-3.64

Part II: FAMIS Plus, LIFC, and Former Foster Care Youth

Once Approved	3.13
Selecting a Provider	3.13
Using the DMAS ID & MCO Health Insurance Cards	3.14
Covered Services Overview	3.14-3.15
Cost Sharing	3.15
Period of Coverage & Reporting Requirements	3.15
Annual Renewal	3.16-3.18
Detailed Covered Services	3.19-3.24

Part III: FAMIS

Once Approved	3.25
Selecting a Provider	3.25
Using the DMAS ID & MCO Health Insurance Cards	3.26

Part III: FAMIS (Continued)

Period of Coverage & Reporting Requirements.....3.26-3.27
Covered Services Overview 3.27
Cost Sharing 3.28
Annual Renewal3.28-3.30
FAMIS/FAMIS MOMS Managed Care Enrollment Chart..... 3.30
FAMIS MCO Comparison Chart (Sample)3.31-3.32
FAMIS Copayment Tracking Form 3.33
FAMIS Detailed Covered Services3.34-3.39

Part III: Medicaid for Pregnant Women and FAMIS MOMS

Once Approved 3.40
Selecting a Provider 3.40
Using the DMAS ID & MCO Health Insurance Cards..... 3.41
Covered Services Overview 3.41
Cost Sharing 3.41
Period of Coverage & Reporting Requirements.....3.41-3.42
Coverage of the Newborn 3.42

Part V: Plan First

Who is Eligible 3.43
How to Apply..... 3.43
Term of Coverage..... 3.44
Covered Services 3.44
Cost Sharing 3.44
How to Access Services..... 3.44

Part VI: FAMIS Select and HIPP

FAMIS Select 3.45
HIPP and HIPP for Kids 3.46

Section 4. Outreach

Why Do We Need Outreach? 4.1
How You Can Help 4.2-4.5
Tips to Make 1:1 Assistance Most Affective..... 4.6-4.7
Strategies Human Services Can Use 4.8
Strategies Employers Can Use..... 4.9
Strategies Hospital & Health Systems Can Use..... 4.10
Strategies Schools Can Use..... 4.11

Section 5. Other Helpful Information

Useful Contact Information 5.1-5.2
The Players and Their Roles 5.3-5.8
Local DSS Offices & Regional Consultants5.9-5.13
Virginia Legal Services Programs 5.14-5.16
Glossary.....5.17-5.22
Application for a Social Security Care 5.23-5.27
Helpful Information on the Web 5.28-5.31
How to Link a Case in CommonHelp 5.32
Long Term Care Services and Supports Pathway 5.33-5.34
Case Examples..... 5.35-5.46