



# Healthier Oregon Overview

As of July 1, 2022, more people are eligible for full Oregon Health Plan (OHP) benefits and other assistance, **regardless of immigration status.**

## Healthier Oregon

is a new pathway to OHP, long term care and other benefits.



**14,000+** more people with full OHP

**Newly eligible: ages 19–25 and 55+ in year 1.**

The Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Department of Human Services are planning to expand the program, if funded.

**Kids under 19 have been eligible since 2018** and keep their coverage under Healthier Oregon.

**A community advisory work group** helps guide all our decisions.

**Almost 12,000 Citizenship Waived Medical (CWM) members moved to full OHP benefits right away.**

CWM members continue to move automatically when they become eligible.

## Member support

*Helping current and new members*



**May 2022**

Letters sent to CWM members



**June 2022**

Phone calls made to CWM members



**July 2022**

Letters, notices and text messages sent to new OHP members

**OHP has local health plans** called coordinated care organizations or CCOs. They help members get the health care they need.

More than **95%** enrolled in CCOs

**15 CCOs** across Oregon

**Members speak 69 unique languages** and most speak English less than very well.

**20+ non-profit grantee organizations** supply one-on-one support and system navigation.

**Community partners** provide supports in a member's preferred language.

For more information, read the [full Healthier Oregon report](#) or visit [Oregon.gov/HealthierOregon](https://Oregon.gov/HealthierOregon)

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## Healthier Oregon removes barriers to health care

When more people have access to affordable health coverage it benefits Oregon's communities, workforce, education systems, and many other sectors of the economy. Because of federal Medicaid rules, some people who would otherwise qualify can't get Medicaid benefits due to their immigration status. Oregon and other states have launched Medicaid-like state-funded programs to remove this barrier to health.

In 2021, the legislature extended Oregon's "Cover All Kids" program to "Cover All People," opening access to Oregon Health Plan (OHP) coverage for adults in Oregon regardless of immigration status. Guided by an advisory work group, Oregon Health

Authority (OHA) and Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) worked together to launch the program, now called Healthier Oregon, in less than a year. Healthier Oregon supplies a pathway to OHP coverage and long-term services and supports to all eligible people, regardless of immigration status. Innovative design and collaboration with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) enabled OHA to integrate members into coordinated care organizations (CCOs) and still claim federal match for eligible services, thereby stretching state dollars further. Healthier Oregon members are OHP members with access to the same benefits and coordination, just with different funding sources.

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## Healthier Oregon in its first year

Under House Bill (HB) 3352, OHA was tasked with limiting eligibility in the first biennium under a \$100 million budget cap. OHA, ODHS, and the Healthier Oregon advisory work group decided the first year would include people ages 19-25 and 55 and older. The first year of the program launched on July 1, 2022.

About 12,000 people moved to full OHP benefits from more limited Citizenship Waived Medical (CWM) benefits right away. As of mid-November 2022, more than 14,300 adults had enrolled, in addition to more than 7,000 children who already had benefits under Cover All Kids. For adults:

- About half are ages 19-25 and about half are 55 and older.

- Members speak at least 69 unique languages and identify with more than 40 race or ethnic groups; 80 percent identify with a group that can be categorized as Hispanic or Latino/a/x/e.
- Nearly 75 percent live in one of five counties in Oregon: Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas, Marion and Jackson Counties.

OHA funds 24 organizations to supply culturally and linguistically responsive outreach, enrollment and navigation help to members and those who wish to enroll in OHP through Healthier Oregon. Community partners' ongoing efforts are critical to ensure members are covered and able to use their coverage.

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## 2023 and beyond

HB 3352 requires a fully open program by July 2023. Until then, more than 40,000 people remain on CWM without access to comprehensive health benefits. OHA and ODHS submitted agency budget requests for consideration in the Governor's budget

to cover the costs of a program open to all ages. Agency staff, the advisory work group and community partners are focusing on outreach and engagement for the current program and preparing systems and policies to be ready by July 2023.

Full report available here: <https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le-110196.pdf>

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. Contact the OHA Community Partner Outreach Program at [community.outreach@dhsoha.state.or.us](mailto:community.outreach@dhsoha.state.or.us) or 503-208-1010.

We accept all relay calls or you can dial 711.