

Access to Health Care Services in Nassau County

This page is intended to provide a summary of information on health care coverage options that are available for pregnant women and all residents of Nassau County who are looking for access to health care.

In this document you will find:

- Information about all Public Health Insurance Programs, including Medicaid, Child Health Plus and Family Health Plus
- Medicaid for Pregnant Women
- Low-Cost Health Insurance Options
- COBRA Information
- The Nassau County Cancer Screening Program
- The Family Planning Benefit Program
- Pharmacy Assistance
- Dental Care for the Uninsured
- Hospital Financial Assistance Programs in Nassau County
- Information on the Community Health Advocacy Program
- How to get help to navigate the Health Access Insurance System

PUBLIC HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAMS:

- A. **Medicaid** is a federal public health insurance program available to all individuals who meet the immigration and income requirements.
- Documentation of resources is required to determine eligibility
 - Provided by a Managed Care Plan or fee for service
 - Managed Care Plans available in Nassau County
 - **Affinity**: 1 (866) 247-5678
 - **Fidelis**: 1 (888) 343-3547
 - **Healthfirst**: 1 (866) 463-6743
 - **Health Plus**: 1 (888) 809-8009
 - **HIP**: 1(866) 447-8255
 - **United Health Care**: 1 (800) 493-4647
 - You can also apply for Medicaid at:
Nassau County Department of Social Services
60 Charles Lindbergh Blvd.
Uniondale, NY 11553
(516) 227-8395
Accessible by bus routes: N16, N24 and N93
- B. The **Medicaid for Pregnant Women** program is an extension of the Medicaid program. This program is specifically for pregnant women who are Medicaid eligible and are residents of Nassau County (regardless of immigration status).

Medicaid Provider Clinics for Pregnant Women:

- **Mercy Medical Center**, Rockville Centre – (516) 705-1613
- **Nassau University Medical Center**, NuHealth Family Health Centers

- East Meadow – (516) 572-5126 or (516) 572-3192
- Elmont – (516) 571-8200
- Freeport/Roosevelt – (516) 571-8600
- Hempstead – (516) 572-1300
- New Cassel/Westbury – (516) 571-9500
- **North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System**
 - Glen Cove Hospital, Glen Cove – (516) 674-7631
 - Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New Hyde Park – (718) 470-4400
 - North Shore University Hospital, Great Neck – (516) 622-5148
- **Planned Parenthood of Nassau County**, Hempstead – (516) 750-2500
- **South Nassau Communities Hospital**, Oceanside – (516) 255-8400
- **Winthrop University Hospital**, Mineola
 - Mineola – (516) 663-3010
 - Hempstead – (516) 663-8878

C. **Child Health Plus** is a New York State Program that is available for all children from birth up until their 19th birthday.

- Documentation of resources is required to determine eligibility
- Child Health Plus is for children who are residents of New York State (regardless of immigration status)
- Can be free or at a low-cost
- Provided by a Managed Care Plan only
- Nassau County participating Managed Care Plans:
 - **Affinity**: 1 (866) 247-5678
 - **Empire Health Choice**: 1 (800) 431-1914
 - **Fidelis**: 1 (888) 343-3547
 - **Healthfirst**: 1 (866) 463-6743
 - **Health Plus**: 1 (888) 809-8009
 - **HIP**: 1(866) 447-8255
 - **United Health Care**: 1 (800) 493-4647

D. **Family Health Plus** is a New York State Program that is available for all New York State Residents who are 19 through 64 years of age and who meet the immigration and income requirements.

- Documentation of income is required to determine eligibility
- Must meet immigration requirements
- Provided by a Managed Care Plan only
(see Managed Care Plans listed under Child Health Plus)

To apply for Medicaid, Family Health Plus or Child Health Plus, please call:

- **Health & Welfare Council of Long Island** at (516) 483-1110 or visit their website at: www.hwcli.com
- **Nassau-Suffolk Hospital Council** at (631) 656-9783 or visit their website at: www.coverage4healthcare.com
- **New York State Department of Health** website: www.health.state.ny.us

E. **Healthy New York**:

Healthy NY is a health insurance plan that is available to small employers, sole proprietors, and uninsured working individuals who reside in New York State. Healthy NY promotes access to quality health care by providing low-cost comprehensive health insurance that

covers essential healthcare services, such as emergency services, inpatient and outpatient hospital services, preventive health services, physician services, maternity care and much more. The Healthy NY program is designed to assist small business owners in providing their employees and their employees' families with affordable health insurance. In addition, Healthy NY may also be purchased through uninsured sole proprietors and workers whose employers do not provide health insurance.

Please visit the [Healthy NY](#) website for more information about Healthy NY, including the eligibility screener and how to download an application. **For more information, please call 1-866-432-5849.**

LOW-COST HEALTH INSURANCE OPTIONS AVAILABLE THROUGH NYS:

A. New York Bridge Plan:

NY Bridge Plan is a Pre-existing Condition Insurance Plan (PCIP) that is available to New York State residents, from birth up until their 65th birthday. NY Bridge Plan is offered through Group Health Incorporated (GHI) and it covers primary and specialty care, inpatient and outpatient hospital care, mental health care, maternity care, laboratory and radiology services, prescription drugs and much more. The current cost for NYC, Nassau, Suffolk, Queens, King, Richmond, Bronx and other downstate counties is \$421 per month. (Co-pays apply)

In order to apply, you must:

- Be a legal US Resident or U.S. Citizen
- Be a resident of New York State
- Have one or more qualifying pre-existing medical conditions
- and have not had any health insurance coverage for at least 6 months

Please visit the [NY Bridge Plan](#) website for more information or to download an application. You can also call 1-866-NY-EZ-APP (1-866-693-9277) to apply. If you have a hearing or speech impairment and use a TDD, please call 1-877-448-4975. To see if your doctor participates with this plan, please call 1-877-444-9961.

B. The Consolidated Omnibus Reconciliation Act (COBRA):

The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) gives workers and their families, who lose their health benefits, the right to choose to continue group health benefits provided by their group health plan, for limited periods of time, under certain circumstances such as voluntary or involuntary job loss, reduction in the hours worked, transition between jobs, death, divorce, and other life events. Qualified individuals may be required to pay the entire premium for coverage.

Please visit the [COBRA](#) website for more information on how to apply for COBRA or you can call 1-866-487-2365.

C. The Affordable Care Act:

Under the Affordable Care Act, if your plan covers children, you can now add or keep your children on your health insurance policy until they turn 26 years old.

What This Means for You

Until now, health plans could remove enrolled children usually at age 19, sometimes older for full-time students. Now, most health plans that cover children must make coverage available to children up to age 26. By allowing children to stay on their parent's plan, the Affordable Care Act makes it easier and more affordable for young adults to get health insurance coverage.

Your adult children can join or remain on your plan whether or not they are:

- married
- living with you
- in school
- financially dependent on you
- eligible to enroll in their employer's plan, with one temporary exception: Until 2014, "grandfathered" group plans do not have to offer dependent coverage up to age 26 if a young adult is eligible for group coverage outside their parents' plan.

Some Important Details

- Your plan is required to provide a 30-day period—no later than the first day of your plan's next "plan year" or "policy year" that begins on or after September 23, 2010—to allow you to enroll your adult child. Your plan must notify you of this enrollment opportunity in writing.
- If you enroll your adult child during this 30-day enrollment period, your plan must cover your adult child from the first day of that plan year or policy year.

For more information, please read the answers to [frequently asked questions](#) about young adults and the Affordable Care Act.

SPECIAL AVAILABLE LOW-COST PROGRAMS

A. Cancer Screening Program:

The Nassau Cancer Screening Partnership offers no-cost and low-cost age appropriate breast, cervical and colorectal cancer screening. Screening and diagnostic services are provided to eligible women and men at no cost to them. The Partnership focuses on women over age 40 and men who are 50 through 64 years of age who are either underinsured or uninsured. The services for women include a mammogram, a CBE, and a Pap & Pelvic exam. Men and women over 50 years are eligible for a take home colorectal screening test.

For more information about the Cancer Screening Program, please call 516-572-3300.

B. Family Planning Benefit or Family Planning Extension Program:

- Nassau University Medical Center, NuHealth Family Health Centers
 - East Meadow – (516) 572-5126 or (516) 572-3192
 - Elmont – (516) 571-8200
 - Freeport/Roosevelt – (516) 571-8600
 - Hempstead – (516) 572-1300
 - New Cassel/Westbury – (516) 571-9500
- North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System
 - Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New Hyde Park – (718) 470-4400

- Planned Parenthood of Nassau County, Hempstead – (516) 750-2500

Other hospitals might also offer Family Planning Services through a sliding fee scale.

C. Pharmacy Assistance:

Pharmacy assistance programs can provide access to reduced fees or low-cost prescription and over the counter drugs for the uninsured.

Pharmacy Assistance Programs		
Name	Phone Number	Website
Partnership for Prescription Assistance	1-888-477-2669	www.PPARx.org
Together Rx	1-800-444-4106	www.togetherrxaccess.com
Nassau Rx	1-877-321-2652	www.nassaurx.advancerx.com
Aids Drug Assistance Program (ADAP)	1-800-542-2437	www.health.state.ny.us/diseases/aids/resources/adap/index.htm
Pharmacy Assistance Programs for seniors		
Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC)	1-800-332-3742	www.health.state.ny.us/health_care/epic/
Benefits Check Up		www.benefitscheckup.org
Medicare Part D	1-800-633-4227	www.medicare.gov

Some local pharmacies also offer a discount plan for prescription drug coverage. Inquire within at each individual pharmacy for further details.

D. Dental Care for the uninsured: (Some insurance plans are accepted)

- Mercy Medical Center, Rockville Center – 516-705-1613
- Nassau University Medical Center, NuHealth Family Health Centers
 - East Meadow – (516) 572-6139
 - Elmont – (516) 571-8222
 - Freeport/Roosevelt –
- North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System
 - Glen Cove Hospital, Glen Cove – (516) 674-7646
 - Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New Hyde Park – (718) 470-7110
 - North Shore University Hospital, Great Neck – (516) 562-4525

HOSPITAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

A. Charity Care:

All general hospitals in New York State are required to provide financial assistance to uninsured patients in their primary service areas with incomes at or below 300% of the federal poverty level. Charges are capped at no more than those charged to the hospital's largest volume payer and include in-patient, outpatient and emergency room services. Patient payments are based on a sliding fee schedule with those at or below 100% of the federal poverty level paying only a nominal amount. Assets may be used in determining fees on a case-by-case basis only and must not include primary residence, retirement or college savings accounts or family cars. For patients who work out a payment plan with the hospital, limits are set on the percentage of monthly income and interest charged. Information on hospital policy must be posted and readily available in a language appropriate manner. Patients can apply up to 90 days after discharge and have a right to appeal the decision. New York State maintains a special hospital complaint line at 1-800-804-5447.

Charity Care Program for a reduction on hospital bills/medical services:

- Mercy Medical Center, Rockville Centre – (516) 705-1613
- Nassau University Medical Center (NUHealth) – 1-888-571-6669
- North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System – 1-800-995-5727
- Planned Parenthood of Nassau County – (516) 750-2500
- South Nassau Communities Hospital – (516) 632-4015
- Winthrop University Hospital – (516) 576-5630

Charity Care/Sliding Fee Scale Programs for outpatient preventative medical care:

Facility Name	Sliding Fee Scale for outpatient, preventive medical care		
	Gen. Medicine	Pediatrics	OB/GYN
Mercy Medical Center, Rockville Center	516-705-1613		
Nassau University Medical Center @ East Meadow Family Health Center	516-486-6862/516-572-5126		516-572-3192
Elmont Family Health Center	516-571-8200		
Freeport/Roosevelt Family Health Center	516-571-8600		
Hempstead Family Health Center	516-572-1300		
Westbury/New Cassel Family Health Center	516-572-9500		
North Shore-LIJ Health System @ Cohen Children's Medical Center, New Hyde Park		516-465-4377	
Glen Cove Hospital, Glen Cove	516-671-7631		
Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New Hyde Park	516-470-4400		
North Shore University Hospital, Great Neck	516-622-5000		516-622-5148
Planned Parenthood of Nassau County @ Hempstead			516-750-2500
Glen Cove			
Massapequa			
South Nassau Community Hospital, Oceanside	516-255-8400		
Winthrop University Hospital @ Mineola			516-663-3010
Hempstead			516-663-8878

HOW TO GET HELP TO NAVIGATE THE HEALTH ACCESS INSURANCE SYSTEM

A. Community Health Advocacy (CHA) Program:

The Community Health Advocacy (CHA) Program serves as New York’s Statewide Consumer Assistance Program under federal health reforms, Affordable Care Act (ACA). CHA is a network of trusted and reputable community based organizations that assists New Yorkers in navigating our complex health care system. In addition, CHA provides access to medical and social service programs that are available throughout the state, culturally appropriate workshops, individualized counseling in multiple languages and a live-answer helpline staffed by CSS.

For more information about CHA, please visit: www.communityhealthadvocates.org or call the general helpline at 1-888-614-5400.

Local CHA Programs for Nassau County:

- Health and Welfare Council of Long Island: Kelly Murray – (516) 483-1110
- Nassau/Suffolk Hospital Council: Stacy Villagram – (631) 435-300

- B. [**The Health Information Tool for Empowerment \(HITE\)**](#) is an online directory of health and social services specifically for uninsured and under-insured New Yorkers. HITE links to an eligibility calculator that helps uninsured individuals determine whether they are likely to be eligible for one of New York's public health insurance programs and it provides access to a broad array of services, including thousands of government, non-profit, and privately sponsored programs and services.

This page was developed by the Healthcare Access Sub-Committee, which is an extension of the Nassau County Department of Health Perinatal Services Network Advocacy Committee.

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