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## PRUCOL Medicaid Eligibility for Undocumented Immigrants

### WHAT IS PRUCOL?

Most undocumented immigrants are ineligible for Medicaid. However, in various states around the country, some undocumented immigrants may be eligible for full Medicaid coverage. PRUCOL persons are undocumented immigrants who are “Permanently Residing under Color of Law.” PRUCOL is *not* an immigration status or a path to citizenship; rather, it is a public benefits eligibility category through which certain undocumented immigrants can apply for Medicaid.

To receive Medicaid under PRUCOL in New York, you must meet the Medicaid income and residency requirements and one of the following eligibility conditions. Other states may have different requirements.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Parolees admitted into the U.S for less than a year
- Persons residing in the U.S. under an Order of Supervision
- Persons who have been granted an indefinite stay of deportation for humanitarian reasons
- Persons who were granted an indefinite voluntary departure (a status granted before 1996)
- Persons on whose behalf an immediate relative petition (I-130) has been approved
- Persons who have submitted “properly filed” applications for legal permanent resident status
- Persons granted stays of deportation for humanitarian reasons
- Persons granted deferred action status (DREAM Act-eligible youth can apply for this status)
- Persons who entered and have continuously resided in the U.S. since before January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1972
- Non-citizens who have been found to be deportable, but who have met a period of continuous residence and have filed for and been granted suspension of deportation
- Other persons living in the United States with the knowledge and permission or acquiescence of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and whose departure the USCIS does not contemplate enforcing. Examples include but are not limited to the following:
  - Permanent non-immigrants pursuant to Public Law 99-239 (applicable to Citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia and Marshall Islands)
  - Applicants for adjustment of status, asylum, suspension of deportation or cancellation of removal, or deferred action
  - Persons granted extended voluntary departure, or Deferred Enforced Departure (DED), for a specified time due to conditions in their home country
  - Persons granted Temporary Protected Status
  - Persons having a K, V, S, or U visa.

**Please go to your local Medicaid office to apply. If you think you are PRUCOL-eligible but have been denied Medicaid coverage, please contact the New York Lawyers for the Public Interest (NYLPI) at 212-244-4664 and ask for the Health Justice Program.**

Sources: Citizenship and Alien Status Requirements for the Medicaid Program ([http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/publications/docs/adm/04adm-7.pdf](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/publications/docs/adm/04adm-7.pdf)); Documentation Guide, Immigrant Eligibility for Health Coverage in New York State ([http://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/publications/docs/adm/04adm-7attd1.pdf](http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/publications/docs/adm/04adm-7attd1.pdf))