NoHLA
Northwest Health Law Advocates

# DATA PRIVACY AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS

## 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

**JULY 2025**

The law prohibits sharing personal information with immigration officials about people who use government-funded health or social services. But under the Trump administration, that information may sometimes be shared with immigration enforcement, even if that's against the law.

## Here are 5 things you should know:

**1** Public programs like Apple Health/Medicaid and Basic Food/Food Assistance Program/SNAP can be very helpful, and **you should balance the benefits with the risks of sharing information.** Only you can decide what's best for your family.

**2** If the Department of Homeland Security already knows your current address, **applying for benefits does not increase your risk.**

**3** **We are not aware of added risk in continuing programs if you are already getting services and you have not moved.** Dropping out of vital support programs won't erase the data you have already provided, and keeping Medicaid or SNAP will help your family.

**4** **You do not have to share everything:** When applying for Apple Health/Medicaid and Basic Food/Food Assistance Program/SNAP, you do not need to share the immigration status or Social Security numbers for family members who are not applying for benefits for themselves, and you should not.

**5** **The public charge rules have not changed**: Apple Health/ Medicaid and Basic Food/Food Assistance Program/SNAP, are not considered in a public charge determination at this time.

**This is not legal advice. This information is as of 9 July 2025.**

**For the more information, please visit nohla.org**