

# IMMIGRANT HEALTH: WHAT'S AT STAKE?

Washington has made significant progress toward immigrant health equity in recent years

But federal changes from HR 1 are estimated to lead to health coverage loss for more over 45,000 lawfully present immigrants as part of their attacks on immigrants

## 1 The future of the Apple Health Expansion for immigrants is at risk

Currently, the AHE is funded for 12,000 people although fewer than 9,000 are enrolled today. The governor's budget stops enrollment, cuts over \$60 million, and also moves from Medicaid-like Managed Care coverage to very limited Fee-For-Service benefits

*We also know that almost 25,000 eligible Washingtonians have already applied but do not have coverage AND today at least 10,000 more lawfully present immigrants are now eligible*

**At minimum, Washington should maintain the immigrant health coverage safety net.**

## 2 WA faces cuts to essential services unless we can generate new progressive revenue

In 2024, the wealthiest 1% in Washington paid less than 4.1% in state & local taxes.

*By contrast, undocumented Washingtonians contributed over \$1 billion in state and local taxes in 2023 with very little access to the social safety net and all immigrants in Washington paid \$6.5 billion in state and local taxes that year.*

## 3 Policy makers must meaningfully engaging communities to identify health care priorities *\*if\** cuts are necessary

The Governor's budget proposal *slashes over 40%* of the Apple Health Expansion budget and reduces the program to a very limited benefit with *only* primary care, prescription drugs, and outpatient behavioral health visits. No dental. No cardiologists. No oncologists.

*\*If\* cuts are necessary, communities must have a voice in what is essential.*

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- A) Demand no cuts to Apple Health Expansion
- B) Let us know how AHE has improved your life or the health of your community
- C) Encourage your community to connect with a navigator today.



**NoHLA**  
Northwest Health Law Advocates

**learn more: [nohla.org](https://nohla.org)**  
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# Health Coverage for All Washingtonians

January 2026 immigrant health access & affordability



Today all Washingtonians can apply for health & dental coverage:  
[wahealthplanfinder.org](http://wahealthplanfinder.org)

## Undocumented Washingtonians now have access to [wahealthplanfinder.org](http://wahealthplanfinder.org)

- In 2024, WA funded two programs to help undocumented people afford coverage
- Mixed-status families can enroll in one plan

### Data Privacy & Public Programs Update

- The state may share limited information with immigration enforcement officials
- These programs do not currently count against applicants for public charge

### What are HealthPlanFinder Health Plans?

- Today, all Washingtonians --including those who are undocumented-- can shop for health and dental plans at Healthplanfinder.

All Washingtonians can now

- access the same plans that meet state standards and include services like primary & specialty care, emergency visits, maternity services and prescriptions.

You may have to enroll with a navigator depending on your immigration status

### What are CASCADE CARE SAVINGS?

- Washington's legislature has invested state funds so that all Washingtonians up to 250% of the federal poverty level (FPL) --including undocumented individuals-- are eligible to receive up to \$250 a month in Cascade Care Savings to lower their health coverage premiums.

However, undocumented individuals and many other lawfully present immigrants cannot get federal assistance with monthly premiums

### What is Apple Health Expansion / the Medicaid-like program?

- In 2025, the legislature allocated funding for 12,000 immigrant adults in Washington with income up to 138% FPL and without access to Medicaid or federal subsidies to access free health coverage.

Covered services include primary &

- specialty care, emergency visits, maternity services, dental services, prescription medications, and more.

The Governor proposes slashing funding by over \$60 million and reducing benefits in a year when the eligible population will double. Advocates are asking for no cuts this legislative session.



### During the 2026 Legislative Session

How can Washington do better?  
[See page 2!](#)



### Questions?

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