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2026

YOUR GUIDE TO APPLYING FOR MEDICAID IN NEW YORK

With Local Focus on Nassau & Suffolk Counties, Queens, Brooklyn, Bronx, New York, Staten Island, and Westchester

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ABOUT
EMICS ELDER CARE

Emics Elder Care specializes in Medicaid planning and elder care coordination to help you qualify for Medicaid, and make informed decisions about your long-term care. Serving New York seniors including those in Nassau County, Suffolk County, Queens County, and Westchester, our expert team is dedicated to providing personalized support for you and your family.

WHY THIS GUIDE **MATTERS**

Applying for Medicaid in New York can feel overwhelming, but with the right preparation, you can navigate the process smoothly. This guide walks you through:

- Who qualifies
- What documents you'll need
- How to apply in Nassau & Suffolk Counties, Queens, Brooklyn, Bronx, New York, Staten Island, and Westchester
- Common mistakes to avoid
- Where to get local help

WHO QUALIFIES FOR MEDICAID IN NEW YORK?

You may be eligible if you:

- Are a low-income adult, child, pregnant woman, or parent/caretaker
- Are 65+ years old, blind, or disabled
- Require nursing home or long-term care services
- Meet income and asset limits (these vary based on household size and type of Medicaid program)

Income and resource limits change yearly. Review current New York Medicaid guidelines before applying, especially for seniors, disabled applicants, and long-term care cases.

Documents You'll Need

Be ready to provide:

- Proof of identity (driver's license, passport, birth certificate)
- Proof of address (utility bill, lease, official mail)
- Social Security card
- Proof of income (pay stubs, benefit letters, unemployment, pension statements)
- Bank statements (3+ months; more for long-term care)
- Insurance information (if you already have coverage)
- Immigration status documents (if applicable)

HOW TO APPLY IN NASSAU, QUEENS, AND WESTCHESTER

Nassau & Suffolk Counties

- MAGI applicants: apply through NY State of Health
  Call: 1-855-355-5777 | nystateofhealth.ny.gov
- Seniors, Medicare/SSI-related, home care, or long-term care:
  contact Nassau County DSS | Phone: (516) 227-8000
- Apply through Suffolk County Department of Social Services

Address: 200 Wireless Blvd, Hauppauge, NY 11788
Phone: (631) 853-8714
Website: https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/Departments/Social-Services

Queens, Brooklyn, Bronx, Manhattan/New York County, and Staten Island (NYC Residents)

- Apply through NYC Human Resources Administration (HRA)

Phone: (718) 557-1399
Online: NYC Access HRA
In-Person: HRA Medicaid Offices are available throughout NYC

Westchester County

- Apply through the Westchester Department of Social Services

Address: 112 E. Post Rd., White Plains, NY
Phone: (914) 995-5000
Website: https://socialservices.westchestergov.com/

RENEWAL REMINDERS & COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID

Renewal Reminders

• Medicaid coverage is not always permanent. You must renew each year (watch for renewal notices in the mail).
• If you miss your renewal, your benefits can lapse.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Submitting incomplete documents
- Missing deadlines
- Not reporting changes in income, address, or household
- Assuming assets don't matter (especially for long-term care Medicaid)

LOCAL HELP AND RESOURCES AND NEXT STEPS

Local Help & Resources

- New York Medicaid Helpline: 1-800-541-2831
- NY State of Health Marketplace: nystateofhealth.ny.gov
- Local senior/elder care advocates in each county often provide free application help.

Next Steps

- Gather your documents
- Choose your application method (online, mail, or in-person at your county DSS/HRA)
- Submit your application and follow up
- Ask for help if you're unsure—there are advocates and attorneys who specialize in Medicaid planning

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LET'S WORK TOGETHER

+516-543-5330
www.emicseldercare.com
info@emicseldercare.com
626 RXR Plaza, West Tower, 6th Floor
Uniondale NY 11556

This guide is for educational purposes only and is not legal advice. If you have questions about your specific situation, contact your county Medicaid office or a trusted legal advisor.