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Partnering with schools — public school systems, private and parochial schools, charter schools, daycare centers and pre-schools, or Head Start programs — can be a great way to reach and enroll families with children who are eligible for Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and not yet enrolled. Cultivating relationships with school staff is a win-win — we know that students are better equipped to learn when they’re getting the health care they need, and schools are trusted sources of information for parents. Connecting with schools can open up opportunities for countless outreach and enrollment activities throughout the year to get — and keep — kids covered.

This is especially important in 2022! Back in March 2020, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) temporarily waived certain Medicaid and CHIP requirements and conditions. The easing of these rules helped prevent people with Medicaid and CHIP — in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the five U.S. territories — from losing their health coverage during the COVID-19 pandemic and many people have not had to renew coverage during this time. Once the pandemic is reduced, states will be required to restart Medicaid and CHIP eligibility reviews and enrollees may be asked to reapply for coverage.

It is important to remind people enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP to: a) make sure their addresses are up-to-date with their state Medicaid office so they receive their applications in the mail and b) look for applications in the mail. Many children may lose coverage due to simply missing the application in the mail.

According to some estimates, when states resume these renewals, millions of people could lose their current Medicaid or CHIP coverage through a process called “unwinding.” In an effort to minimize the number of people that lose Medicaid or CHIP coverage, CMS is working with states and other stakeholders on outreach efforts like this Back-to-School initiative to inform people about renewing their coverage and exploring other available health insurance options if they no longer qualify for Medicaid or CHIP.

For additional resources, visit the Back-to-School/School-Based Outreach initiative page on InsureKidsNow.gov to access tip sheets, posters, social media graphic, digital videos and more. Also visit the Unwinding page on Medicaid.gov, which features the Communications Toolkit and graphics to help partners begin reaching out to Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries so that they are prepared for upcoming renewals.
Key Messages

Back-to-School is an Important Time to Talk Health Coverage
Having health insurance is critical for children to thrive at school and in life. Children with health insurance are more likely to complete high school and graduate college compared with their peers who don’t have access to care.

Health coverage for kids benefits everyone. Studies have shown that children with health coverage are less likely to miss school due to illness and are better prepared to learn, meaning fewer missed days of work for parents. Fewer missed school days may also allow kids and teens to stay involved with after-school activities like clubs and sports.

Get Ready to Renew Now
Enrollees who have Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage for their families can get ready to renew now by making sure [NAME OF STATE MEDICAID OR CHIP PROGRAM] has your current mailing address, phone number, email, or other contact information. This way, they’ll be able to contact you when it is time to renew.

Other Important Enrollment Messages
Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) [NAME OF STATE CHIP PROGRAM] offers free or low-cost health insurance for children and teens up to age 19 in families with low and moderate incomes.

Eligibility is dependent on household size and income and varies by state. In most states, children up to age 19 with family income up to $50,000 per year (for a family of four) may qualify for Medicaid or the CHIP. In many states, family income can be even higher and children can still qualify. Young people up to 21 may be eligible for Medicaid.

Families can enroll in either program at any time throughout the year. Other family members may have to enroll in a Qualified Health Plan through the Marketplace. Many uninsured children may be eligible for coverage, but their parents don’t know it.

Even if you work or have applied for free or low-cost health coverage from your state before and haven’t qualified, you and members of your household may now be eligible.

Parents and other adults may qualify for Medicaid as well. And even if you are not eligible, your child may be.
If your child no longer qualifies for Medicaid, you may be able to get them health coverage through your state’s CHIP.

For more information about Medicaid renewal or CHIP coverage, contact your state Medicaid office or visit Medicaid.gov/renewals.

Losing Medicaid or CHIP coverage is a Qualifying Life Event (QLE), which allows you to enroll in a Marketplace plan outside of the Open Enrollment Period.

Visit HealthCare.gov or call the Marketplace Call Center at 1-800-318-2596 (TTY: 1-855-889-4325) to get details about Marketplace coverage.

Families and individuals can apply online, by phone, by mail or in person. Enrollment is open year-round, and coverage must be renewed each year to keep children enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP.

The process to apply for free or low-cost health coverage for your child from your state has gotten faster — many can apply and find out if they qualify the same day.

**Benefits**

For children and teens, Medicaid and CHIP cover emergency doctor and hospital visits, prescriptions, and immunizations. Other benefits include check-ups and regular doctor visits, dentist visits, mental and behavioral health services, eye exams, and other care children and teens may need.

Children with Medicaid and CHIP have coverage for age-appropriate vaccinations and the seasonal flu vaccine each year.

Medicaid and CHIP cover essential mental and behavioral health services for kids and teens up to at least age 19.
Community newspapers, school newsletters, church bulletins, local community organizations, websites, social media groups/handles and blogs are frequently in need of content. Use the materials below to help spread the word during Back-to-School season about how Medicaid and CHIP can help kids start the school year with health coverage!

Be sure to visit InsureKidsNow.gov to access the Back-to-School/School-Based Outreach initiative for a full listing of tools and materials specifically tailored for Back-to-School and other school-based outreach. Print materials can be customized by following the instructions in the Customization Guide; please allow two weeks for requests to be fulfilled. Template materials can also be easily tailored by following the instructions below.

Customizing materials and social media posts makes content more applicable to your community and can help people find local resources such as your website or important hotlines so that as many eligible children as possible are able to enroll in Medicaid and CHIP and receive affordable, quality health coverage.

Materials can be tailored with your state’s income limit for a family of four at 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). To find the annual FPL figure, visit ASPE Poverty Guidelines. To find the specific FPL guidelines for your state, click here or contact your state’s Medicaid or CHIP program for information. Note: The income level figure will change from year to year based on the annual release of FPL guidelines. For online materials, you can also link to the “Find Coverage for Your Family” map on InsureKidsNow.gov/coverage (in Spanish: espanol.insurekidsnow.gov/coverage) or the landing page of your state’s Medicaid/CHIP website for state-specific information.
Approximately 400 Words

Make sure your child has all the essentials for a productive school year

Studies have shown that academic performance and health insurance go hand in hand. Children who have health coverage miss fewer classes and perform better in school than those who are uninsured. But health coverage doesn’t just benefit students. Fewer missed days of school also mean fewer missed days of work for parents. With health coverage, children can get the routine and emergency care, immunizations, check-ups, eye exams, dental visits and mental health services they may need to fully participate in school and extracurricular activities.

Nationwide, millions of school-aged children and teens qualify — and are enrolled — in free or low-cost health coverage through Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP). For families with children currently enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, this is also a good time to make sure their current mailing address, phone number, email, or other contact information is up-to-date with their state program. Many people move and forget to update their address. These families might accidently miss a letter about coverage from their state, including renewal information. Then, they could lose their health coverage too.

Medicaid and CHIP provide free or low-cost coverage for eligible children and teens up to age 19. Eligibility is dependent on household size and income. In most states, children whose family has income up to $50,000 per year (for a family of four) may qualify for Medicaid or CHIP. In many states, family income can be even higher and children can still qualify. Young people up to 21 may be eligible for Medicaid. Having Medicaid or CHIP will not affect someone’s chance of becoming a Lawful Permanent Resident or U.S. Citizen. It is not considered a “public charge” accept for people in long-term care facilities or institutions.

You can apply online, over the phone, by mail or in-person with your state’s Medicaid or CHIP agency or visit the “Find Coverage for Your Family” section on InsureKidsNow.gov. For more information, call 1-877-KIDS-NOW (1-877-543-7669). Enrollment in Medicaid and CHIP is open all year, and, once your child is enrolled, you need to renew their coverage every year to keep them covered.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services provided this information.
Asegúrese de que su hijo tenga todos los elementos esenciales para un año escolar productivo

Los estudios han demostrado que el rendimiento académico y el seguro médico van de la mano. Los niños que tienen cobertura de salud faltan menos a clases y se desempeñan mejor en la escuela que aquellos que no tienen seguro. Con cobertura de salud, los niños pueden obtener atención de rutina y de emergencia, vacunas, cheques médicos, exámenes de la vista, consultas dentales y los servicios de salud mental que pueden necesitar para participar plenamente en la escuela.

A nivel nacional, millones de niños en edad escolar califican y están inscritos en cobertura de salud gratuita o de bajo costo a través de Medicaid y el Programa de Seguro Médico para Niños (CHIP). Para las familias con niños que actualmente tienen Medicaid o CHIP, este también es un buen momento para asegurarse de que su dirección postal actual, número de teléfono, correo electrónico u otra información de contacto esté actualizada con su programa estatal. Muchas personas se mudan y se olvidan de actualizar su dirección. Estas familias podrían perder accidentalmente una carta sobre cobertura y renovación enviada por su estado por correo postal.

Medicaid y CHIP proporcionan cobertura gratuita o de bajo costo para niños elegibles hasta los 19 años. La elegibilidad depende del tamaño de la familia y de los ingresos. En la mayoría de los estados, los niños con ingresos familiares de hasta $50,000 por año (para una familia de cuatro) podrían calificar para Medicaid o CHIP. En muchos estados, los ingresos familiares pueden ser aún más altos y los niños aún podrían calificar. Los jóvenes de hasta 21 años podrían ser elegibles para Medicaid. Tener Medicaid o CHIP no afectará la posibilidad de que alguien se convierta en residente permanente legal o ciudadano estadounidense. No se considera solicitar o tener Medicaid o CHIP una determinación de “carga pública” para las personas en centros o instituciones de cuidado a largo plazo.

Puede solicitar en línea, por teléfono, por correo postal o en persona con la agencia de Medicaid o CHIP de su estado o visitar la sección “Obtener cobertura para su familia” en InsureKidsNow.gov. Para más información, llame al 1-877-KIDS-NOW (1-877-543-7669). La inscripción en Medicaid y CHIP está abierta todo el año, y la cobertura debe renovarse anualmente.

Información proporcionada por el Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de los Estados Unidos.
Outreach Materials:
Live Read Public Service Announcement Scripts

Reach out to local radio stations to spread the word about Medicaid and CHIP! The following scripts are designed to be read by local radio personalities when free airtime is available. Substitute your organization’s contact information/program name or use the general scripts. Be sure to provide the different lengths as stations may have varying needs. For best results, send these scripts to stations at least a month before the first day of school in your community.

10 Seconds
• Are your kids covered as they go back-to-school? Visit InsureKidsNow.gov to learn about free or low-cost coverage under Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program.
• Help your kids prepare for the new school year with essential health care services from Medicaid and CHIP, including mental and behavioral health. Learn more at InsureKidsNow.gov.
• Don’t miss your Medicaid renewal letter! Update your contact information with us [OR “YOUR STATE”] if it changed recently. Visit Medicaid.gov/renewals for information.

15 Seconds
• Help your kids be ready for the school year with free or low-cost health insurance from Medicaid and CHIP. Visit InsureKidsNow.gov for enrollment information, then call their doctor to schedule routine medical visits.
• Are your kids covered as they go back-to-school? Medicaid and CHIP cover routine medical visits, vaccines, and essential mental and behavioral health services. To learn more about free or low-cost health coverage for kids visit, InsureKidsNow.gov.
• Has your address changed in the last 3 years? Update your address with us [OR “YOUR STATE”] so you get your Medicaid renewal letter. Visit Medicaid.gov/renewals for information.

30 Seconds
• Are your kids covered to go back-to-school? Routine medical visits and childhood vaccines play an important role in keeping kids healthy. And with free or low-cost health coverage from Medicaid and CHIP, doctor visits, prescriptions, shots, mental and behavioral health, and more are covered. Enrollment is open year-round. Enroll today so they are covered for the year. Learn more at InsureKidsNow.gov.
• Do you have coverage through [STATE MEDICAID OR CHIP PROGRAM NAME]? Medicaid/CHIP renewals are coming! Update your contact information with your state if it has changed in the last 3 years to make sure you get your Medicaid renewal letter. Visit Medicaid.gov/renewals for information.
Outreach Materials:
Live Read Public Service Announcement Scripts (Spanish)

10 segundos
• ¿Están sus hijos cubiertos para el regreso a la escuela? Visite InsureKidsNow.gov para aprender sobre cobertura gratuita o de bajo costo de Medicaid y del Programa de Seguro Médico para Niños.
• Ayude a sus hijos a prepararse para el nuevo año escolar con servicios esenciales de cuidado de salud de Medicaid y CHIP, incluyendo salud mental y del comportamiento. Aprenda más en InsureKidsNow.gov.
• ¡No pierda su carta de renovación de Medicaid! Actualice su información de contacto con nosotros [o “su estado”] si cambió recientemente. Visite Medicaid.gov/renewals para más información.

15 segundos
• Ayude a sus hijos a prepararse para el año escolar con seguro de salud gratuito o de bajo costo de Medicaid y CHIP. Visite InsureKidsNow.gov para información sobre inscripción, y luego llame a su médico para programar visitas médicas de rutina.
• ¿Están sus hijos cubiertos para el regreso a la escuela? Medicaid y CHIP cubren visitas médicas de rutina, vacunas y servicios esenciales de salud mental y del comportamiento. Para aprender más sobre cobertura de salud gratuita o a bajo costo para niños, visite InsureKidsNow.gov.
• ¿Ha cambiado su dirección en los últimos 3 años? Actualice su dirección con nosotros [o “su estado”] para recibir su carta de renovación de Medicaid. Visite Medicaid.gov/renewals para más información.

30 segundos
• ¿Están sus hijos cubiertos para el regreso a la escuela? Las visitas médicas de rutina y la vacunación infantil juegan un papel importante para mantener a los niños saludables. Y con la cobertura médica gratuita o de bajo costo de Medicaid y CHIP, las visitas al médico, medicinas recetadas, vacunas, salud mental y del comportamiento, y más, están cubiertas. La inscripción está abierta todo el año. Inscríbanlos hoy para que estén cubiertos por el año. Aprenda más en InsureKidsNow.gov.
• ¿Tiene cobertura a través de [nombre del programa estatal de Medicaid o CHIP]? ¡Se acercan las renovaciones de Medicaid/CHIP! Actualice su información de contacto con su estado si ha cambiado en los últimos 3 años para asegurarse de recibir su carta de renovación de Medicaid. Visite Medicaid.gov/renewals para más información.
Outreach Materials:

SMS Text Messages

**ENGLISH**

Did you know that Medicaid and CHIP offer free or low-cost health coverage, including dental care for kids up to age 19? Learn more here: [LINK]

Medicaid and CHIP covers preventive and emergency services, regular check-ups, immunizations, prescriptions, and more: [LINK]

Medicaid and CHIP offer coverage of routine doctor’s visits, emergency care, dental care, and more. Learn more about getting your child covered: [LINK]

Medicaid and CHIP increase access to healthcare by providing free or low-cost coverage to kids and teens up to the age of 19. Enrollment is always open: [LINK]

Kids with health insurance tend to do better in school. See if you qualify for Medicaid or CHIP today to get your child covered tomorrow: [LINK]

**SPANISH**

¿Sabía que Medicaid y CHIP ofrecen cobertura médica gratuita o de bajo costo, incluida la atención dental para niños hasta los 19 años? Obtenga más información aquí: [LINK]

Medicaid y CHIP cubren servicios preventivos y de emergencia, chequeos regulares, vacunas, recetas y más: [LINK]

Medicaid y CHIP ofrecen cobertura de visitas médicas de rutina, atención de emergencia, atención dental y más. Obtenga más información sobre cómo cubrir a su hijo: [LINK]

Medicaid y CHIP aumentan el acceso a la atención médica al brindar cobertura gratuita o de bajo costo a niños y adolescentes hasta la edad de 19 años. La inscripción siempre está abierta: [LINK]

Los niños con seguro médico tienden a rendir mejor en la escuela. Ve si calificas para Medicaid o CHIP hoy para que tu hijo esté cubierto: [LINK]
Outreach Materials:
Social Media & Outreach Products

The social media content below has been created for Connecting Kids to Coverage National Campaign supporters, including partners and grantees, to use on Twitter and Facebook and is adaptable for other platforms. The content is meant to be used during the general Back-to-School season, ranging from August to October. It also includes content to remind families that are already enrolled to update their contact information with their state Medicaid office in preparation for the unwinding of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

In addition to copy, we have also provided suggested graphics to help make posts stand out even more. You can obtain these graphics, referring to the file name, on the InsureKidsNow.gov Outreach Tool Library.

These posts are crafted to drive followers to your organization or state website. You can also link to the “Find Coverage for Your Family” map on InsureKidsNow.gov/coverage (in Spanish: espanol.insurekidsnow.gov/coverage) or the landing page of your state’s Medicaid/CHIP website for state-specific information. Customizing posts makes content more applicable to your followers and can help people find local resources such as your website or important hotlines so that as many eligible children as possible are able to enroll in Medicaid and CHIP and receive affordable, quality health coverage.
### Twitter & Facebook Posts

#### Twitter Copy-English

As kids return to school this fall, make sure they're prepared for the school year – and get health coverage through Medicaid and CHIP. If your family is already covered, make sure all contact information is up-to-date with your state Medicaid office. Find out more: [YOUR ORGANIZATION'S PAGE LINK]

#Enroll365

#### Facebook Copy-English

As kids return to school this fall, having health insurance is important so they can fully engage in the classroom. Make sure you’re prepared for the school year – and get health coverage through Medicaid and CHIP. If your family is already covered, make sure all contact information is up-to-date with your state Medicaid office. Find out more: [YOUR ORGANIZATION'S PAGE LINK]

#### Suggested Graphic-English

**“Back To School” in English**

Twitter | Facebook

**“Ready to Learn” in English**

Twitter | Facebook

**“Happy Students” in English**

Twitter | Facebook

#### Twitter Copy-English

Kids who have health coverage are better prepared to learn and are less likely to miss school. Learn how you can apply for Medicaid and CHIP and get your kids ready for school! [STATE INSURANCE PAGE OR YOUR ORGANIZATION’S PAGE LINK]

#Enroll365

#### Facebook Copy-English

Kids who have health coverage are better prepared to learn and are less likely to miss school. Medicaid and CHIP cover preventive care, prescriptions, and vaccines. Learn how you can apply and get your kids ready for school! [STATE INSURANCE PAGE OR YOUR ORGANIZATION’S PAGE LINK]

#### Suggested Graphic-English

**“Back To School” in English**

Twitter | Facebook

**“Ready to Learn” in English**

Twitter | Facebook

**“Happy Students” in English**

Twitter | Facebook

#### Twitter Copy-English

Remember that Medicaid and CHIP provide access to free, routine care – including routine vaccines – so kids can stay healthy throughout the school year and beyond. Learn more about coverage in [YOUR STATE]: [STATE INSURANCE PAGE OR YOUR ORGANIZATION’S PAGE LINK]

#Enroll365

#### Facebook Copy-English

Remember that Medicaid and CHIP provide access to free, routine care, including routine vaccines so kids can stay healthy throughout the school year and beyond. Eligible families can enroll any time of the year. Learn more about coverage in [YOUR STATE]: [STATE INSURANCE PAGE OR YOUR ORGANIZATION’S PAGE LINK]

#### Suggested Graphic-English

**“Happy Students” in English**

Twitter | Facebook
If you’re already covered by Medicaid or CHIP, make sure all contact information is up-to-date with your state Medicaid office especially if you have moved in the last two years. Find out more: [STATE INSURANCE PAGE OR YOUR ORGANIZATION’S PAGE LINK]#Enroll365

Kids learn better when their teeth are healthy. When tooth pain is treated, children are less likely to miss school. Medicaid and CHIP cover eligible children up to age 19 and provide access to dental services. Learn more: [STATE INSURANCE PAGE OR YOUR ORGANIZATION’S PAGE LINK]

Kids with health insurance are more likely to complete high school (and graduate college) than their peers who don’t have health insurance. With Medicaid and CHIP coverage, children have access to important routine care services including doctor visits, dental care, and vaccines. Learn more about the services offered through the Medicaid office in your state: [STATE INSURANCE PAGE]

States communicate with families enrolled in Medicaid and CHIP by mail. Make sure your contact information is up-to-date so you don’t miss out on important updates and renewal information. Learn more: [STATE INSURANCE PAGE]
### Twitter & Facebook Posts

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<th>Twitter Copy-Spanish</th>
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| Según los niños van regresando a la escuela este otoño, asegúrese de que estén preparados para el año escolar – y obtenga cobertura médica a través de #Medicaid y #CHIP. Si su familia ya está cubierta, asegúrese que toda su información de contacto esté actualizada en la oficina de #Medicaid de su estado. Averigüe más : [ENLACE A LA PÁGINA DE SU ORGANIZACIÓN] #Enroll365 | Según los niños van regresando a la escuela este otoño, tener seguro médico es importante para que puedan participar plenamente en sus clases. Asegúrese de estar preparado para el año escolar – y obtenga cobertura médica a través de Medicaid y CHIP. Si su familia ya está cubierta, asegúrese que toda su información de contacto esté actualizada en la oficina de Medicaid de su estado. Averigüe más : [ENLACE A LA PÁGINA DE SU ORGANIZACIÓN] | “Back to School” in Spanish  
Twitter | Facebook |
| Los niños que tienen cobertura médica están mejor preparados para aprender y es menos probable que falten a la escuela. ¡Aprenda cómo puede solicitar #Medicaid y #CHIP y prepare a sus hijos para la escuela! [PÁGINA DEL SEGURO ESTATAL O ENLACE DE LA PÁGINA DE SU ORGANIZACIÓN] #Enroll365 | Los niños que tienen cobertura médica están mejor preparados para aprender y es menos probable que falten a la escuela. Medicaid y CHIP cubren cuidado preventivo, medicinas recetadas y vacunas. ¡Aprenda cómo puede solicitar y prepare a sus hijos para la escuela! [PÁGINA DEL SEGURO ESTATAL O ENLACE DE LA PÁGINA DE SU ORGANIZACIÓN] #Enroll365 | “Ready to Learn” in Spanish  
Twitter | Facebook |
| Recuerde que #Medicaid y #CHIP brindan acceso a la atención de rutina gratuita – incluidas las vacunas contra la influenza– para que los niños puedan mantenerse saludables durante todo el año escolar y más allá. Obtiene más información sobre la cobertura en [SU ESTADO]: [PÁGINA DE SEGURO ESTATAL O ENLACE A LA PÁGINA DE SU ORGANIZACIÓN] #Enroll365 | Recuerde que Medicaid y CHIP brindan acceso a la atención de rutina gratuita – incluidas las vacunas contra la influenza– para que los niños puedan mantenerse saludables durante todo el año escolar y más allá. Las familias elegibles pueden inscribirse en cualquier momento del año. Obtiene más información sobre la cobertura en [SU ESTADO]: [PÁGINA DE SEGURO ESTATAL O ENLACE A LA PÁGINA DE SU ORGANIZACIÓN] | “Happy Students” in Spanish  
Twitter | Facebook |
### Twitter Copy-Spanish

Si ya está cubierto por #Medicaid o #CHIP, asegúrese de que su toda su información de contacto esté actualizada en su oficina estatal de Medicaid, especialmente si se ha mudado en los últimos dos años. Averígüe más: [PÁGINA DEL SEGURO ESTATAL O ENLACE DE LA PÁGINA DE SU ORGANIZACIÓN]

### Facebook Copy-Spanish

Si ya está cubierto por Medicaid o CHIP, asegúrese de que toda su información de contacto esté actualizada en su oficina estatal de Medicaid, especialmente si se ha mudado en los últimos dos años. Averígüe más: [PÁGINA DEL SEGURO ESTATAL O ENLACE DE LA PÁGINA DE SU ORGANIZACIÓN]

### Suggested Graphic-Spanish

"Mailing Address" in Spanish

Twitter | Facebook

"Healthy Teeth" in Spanish

Twitter | Facebook

"New School Year-Backpack" in Spanish

Twitter | Facebook

### InsureKidsNow.gov

2022 Back-to-School Toolkit