



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT  
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH



For Immediate Release

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## **Georgia Pathways to Coverage™ Launches, Establishing a New Category of Medicaid Assistance**

*Program is a new pathway to Medicaid coverage and healthier communities*

**ATLANTA** (July 5, 2023) – The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) announced today the launch of Georgia Pathways to Coverage™, an innovative program that establishes a new category of Medicaid assistance for Georgians who otherwise would not be eligible for traditional Medicaid. As one of [Governor Kemp's key priorities](#), this program seeks to increase access to affordable healthcare coverage, lower the uninsured rate across Georgia, support participating members on their journeys to financial independence, and promote members' transitions from Medicaid into private coverage.

The launch of Georgia Pathways to Coverage has been roughly four years in the making and builds on the success of other healthcare innovations introduced following passage of the Patients First Act in 2019, including Georgia Access and the reinsurance program that has reduced premiums by an average of 12.4 percent across the state.

"Since I became governor, we've worked hard to expand access to care, get more Georgians covered, and lower costs for families," said Governor Brian P. Kemp. "Too often the federal government has stood in the way of our innovative, Georgia-centric solutions to the healthcare challenges we face as a state. But as I said when we passed the Patients First Act four years ago, we can't wait on Washington. Georgia Pathways, along with Georgia Access, puts Georgians and their access to care first – ahead of the status quo. I'm proud to see Georgia Pathways go live and I look forward to it helping create a healthier future for the people of our state."

"The department is proud to stand up this initiative that offers another avenue of healthcare coverage for Georgians," said DCH Commissioner Caylee Noggle. "This launch represents a culmination of leadership and partnerships – from our Governor and legislators to state agencies and our technical college and university systems – that demonstrate our commitment to support healthier futures across this state."

Pathways offers Medicaid coverage to eligible Georgians who are U.S. citizens or legally residing non-citizens, are ages 19-64 who have a household income of up to 100 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), are not otherwise eligible for traditional Medicaid, are not incarcerated, and can document that they meet the qualifying activities threshold. Qualifying activities include full-time or part-time employment, on-the-job training, job readiness assistance programs, community service, vocational educational training, enrollment in the Vocational Rehabilitation program of the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA), and higher



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education. Qualifying activity requirements only apply to Pathways members, and not those enrolled under traditional Georgia Medicaid. Furthermore, there are currently no member copays or premiums associated with Pathways.

For more information about Pathways, visit [dch.ga.gov/georgiapathways](https://dch.ga.gov/georgiapathways). To apply, visit [gateway.ga.gov](https://gateway.ga.gov). Applicants may also apply by phone at 1-877-423-4746 or 711 for those who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, or have difficulty speaking; in-person at your local Division of Family & Children Services (DFCS) office: [dfcs.ga.gov/locations](https://dfcs.ga.gov/locations); or by mail to your local DFCS office.

#### **About the Georgia Department of Community Health**

DCH serves as the lead agency for [Medicaid](#) and [PeachCare for Kids®](#), which, combined, cover more than 2 million Georgians annually. The agency also oversees the [State Health Benefit Plan](#), [Healthcare Facility Regulation Division](#), and the [State Office of Rural Health](#), among other divisions, accounting for an annual budget of over \$18 billion. Through effective planning, purchasing and oversight, DCH provides access to affordable, quality health care to some of the state's most vulnerable and underserved populations. To learn more about DCH and its commitment to *Shaping the Future of a Healthy Georgia*, visit <https://dch.georgia.gov/>.

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