

NO MEDICAID CUTS

The Republican Plan for Medicaid Will Harm People with Disabilities

Medicaid Is a Lifeline for People with Disabilities

Over [15 million](#) Americans with disabilities are enrolled in Medicaid. This includes 2.3 million children with disabilities, 8.8 million adults with disabilities, and 4.4 million seniors with disabilities.

Medicaid allows people with disabilities to live at home rather than in institutions. Medicaid is the [primary payer](#) for long-term services and supports (LTSS), including for nearly [4.5 million](#) Medicaid enrollees relying on the program for home- and community-based services (HCBS). People with disabilities and their families already deal with waitlists of over [700,000 people](#) for these services, which will only continue to grow. As an [optional benefit](#), Medicaid HCBS will be one of the first services on the chopping block if Republicans make unprecedented cuts to the program.

Medicaid helps students with disabilities remain in the classroom. Schools received [\\$7.5 billion](#) from Medicaid in 2023 to provide students access to speech therapy, school nurses, occupational therapy, mental health services, and more. Almost [70%](#) of school districts use Medicaid to support students, including for the use of assistive technology and transportation for students with disabilities.

Medicaid helps people with disabilities participate in the workforce. [Research](#) shows individuals with disabilities are more likely to work in expansion versus non-expansion states. One [multi-state study](#) found that employment rates for adults with disabilities increased by nearly six percentage points after their state expanded Medicaid.

Republican Medicaid Cuts Put the Health and Coverage of Americans with Disabilities At-Risk

Every proposal on the Republican [wish list](#) of more than \$2 trillion in Medicaid cuts is bad news for people with disabilities—cuts of this magnitude would slash 1/3rd of federal Medicaid spending. These proposals include but are not limited to:

- **Rolling Back Improvements that Help People with Disabilities Get Coverage and Keep It:** Repealing or delaying the Medicaid Eligibility and Enrollment final rule would roll back key protections for people with disabilities, subjecting them to multiple, needless eligibility checks a year and authorizing states to require in-person interviews for enrollment.
- **Terminating Coverage for People with Disabilities Through Work Reporting Requirements:** Experiences in [Arkansas](#) and [Georgia](#) show that work reporting rips coverage and benefits away from tens of thousands of people with disabilities—despite so-called “exemptions.” These requirements do nothing to help people with disabilities find work, but rather upend access to services that ensure they can participate in the workforce. Not only that, work reporting requirements do nothing to address the cost of health care—they save money by ripping health care away from people, and will not reduce drug prices or insurance industry profits by one penny.
- **Cutting Coverage and Services and Sabotaging States’ Ability to Pay Providers:** Dramatically reducing federal Medicaid spending through proposals like per capita caps, shifting administrative costs to states, and cutting the federal share will force states to slash benefits, services, and eligibility for Americans with disabilities. Republican proposals will also limit states’ ability to finance their own programs, often through provider taxes used in [nearly all states](#). States will be forced to slash Medicaid reimbursement rates, impacting providers’ ability to care for people with disabilities.

Bottom Line:

Republican proposals to cut Medicaid will force states to terminate coverage for people with disabilities—and there is no acceptable coverage loss. No Medicaid cuts to Americans with disabilities to fund tax handouts to billionaires and wealthy corporations.