



## Fact Sheet

# Federal Citizenship and Identity Requirements Medicaid

## Overview

### What is it?

Federal law requires U.S. Citizens who apply for or receive Medicaid funded health coverage, services and/or supports to show proof of their citizenship and identity. The law applies to all RI Medicaid programs including: RItE Care, RItE Share, Rhody Health Partners, Connect Care Choice, long-term care and fee for services programs for people with disabilities and special needs. **Medicaid beneficiaries who receive SSI or Medicare are exempt from these requirements. Immigrants and undocumented persons are not affected by this policy.**

### What documents are acceptable to prove citizenship and identity?

Citizenship is divided into 4 levels of hierarchy. You must exhaust Level 1 before you can use Level 2 documents; you must exhaust Level 2 before you can use Level 3 documents, etc. Level 4 documents are only to be used in rare circumstances. The List of identity documentation does not have levels. Any document from the list is sufficient to prove identity.

Special rules apply for children under 16 to document identity. A parent's signature attesting to the identity and place of birth of their child(ren) under age 16 is proof of identity. Other documents may also be acceptable.

### How do applicants and recipients show their documents?

Federal law requires that the citizenship and identity documents be original documents. Applicants and recipients can either show these documents to their worker at the local field office OR they can show their documents to an authorized representative at a Family Resource Counselors (FRCs), hospitals, community health centers or one of the RItE Care health plans