

Oklahoma Health Care Authority

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) values your feedback and input. It is very important that you provide your comments regarding the proposed rule change by the comment due date. Comments can be submitted on the OHCA's [Proposed Changes Blog](#).

OHCA COMMENT DUE DATE: March 3, 2022

The proposed policy changes are currently in effect as Emergency Rules and must be promulgated as Permanent Rules. The proposed policy was presented at the September 7, 2021 and November 2, 2021 Tribal Consultations. Additionally, this proposal was presented to the Medical Advisory Committee on September 7, 2021 and November 4, 2021. Furthermore, this proposal will be presented at a Public Hearing scheduled for March 8, 2022. Finally, the proposed changes are scheduled to be presented as permanent rules to the OHCA Board of Directors on March 16, 2022.

Reference: APA WF # 21-26

SUMMARY:

COFA Migrant Medicaid Extension and Afghan Refugees Eligibility Determinations — The proposed rule changes are necessary due to recently enacted federal legislation which extended Medicaid to COFA migrants and recently enacted federal legislation related to immigration status and eligibility determinations for certain Afghan nationals.

LEGAL AUTHORITY

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority Act, Section 5007 (C)(2) of Title 63 of Oklahoma Statutes; the Oklahoma Health Care Authority Board; Section 208 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act; P. Law 111-8, Section 602 of the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2009; P. Law 111-118, Section 8120; P. Law 117-31; and Public Law 117-43, Section 2502.

RULE IMPACT STATEMENT:

STATE OF OKLAHOMA OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY

SUBJECT: Rule Impact Statement
APA WF # 21-26

A. Brief description of the purpose of the rule:

The proposed policy establishes rules to update the citizenship/alien status policy to update eligibility determinations related to Compact of Free Association (COFA) migrants from the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and Federated States of Micronesia, as well as Afghan nationals with certain immigration statuses entering the United States, which entitles these individuals to SoonerCare services, provided all other eligibility factors are met. Additionally, language and formatting were updated to align with federal law more

closely. **The aforementioned proposed rules were promulgated through the Emergency Rule process.**

- B. A description of the classes of persons who most likely will be affected by the proposed rule, including classes that will bear the cost of the proposed rule, and any information on cost impacts received by the agency from any private or public entities:

Residents of Oklahoma who are COFA migrants as well as Afghan nationals with certain immigration statuses, who are otherwise eligible, are most likely to be affected by the proposed rule. Providers who see an increase in patient visits are also likely to be affected. This rule change should not place any cost burden on private or public entities. No information on any cost impacts were received from any entity.

- C. A description of the classes of persons who will benefit from the proposed rule:

The proposed rule changes will benefit COFA migrants as well as Afghan nationals with certain immigration statuses who are residing in Oklahoma and who will now be eligible for SoonerCare benefits if otherwise eligible.

- D. A description of the probable economic impact of the proposed rule upon the affected classes of persons or political subdivisions, including a listing of all fee changes and, whenever possible, a separate justification for each fee change:

There is no probable economic impact and there are no fee changes associated with the rule change for the above classes of persons or any political subdivisions.

- E. The probable costs and benefits to the agency and to any other agency of the implementation and enforcement of the proposed rule, the source of revenue to be used for implementation and enforcement of the proposed rule, and any anticipated affect on state revenues, including a projected net loss or gain in such revenues if it can be projected by the agency:

COFA Migrant: The estimated total cost for SFY 2022 is \$8,552,972 (\$6,395,913 in federal share and \$2,157,059 in state share). The estimated total cost for SFY 2023 is \$8,552,972 (\$6,270,184 in federal share and \$2,282,788 in state share).

Afghan Refugee: The estimated total cost for SFY 2022 is \$3,841,000 (\$2,951,918 in federal share and \$889,082 in state share). The estimated total cost for SFY 2023 is \$6,913,800 (\$5,019,246 in federal share and \$1,894,554 in state share).

- F. A determination of whether implementation of the proposed rule will have an economic impact on any political subdivisions or require their cooperation in implementing or enforcing the rule:

The proposed rule changes will not have an economic impact on any political subdivision or require their cooperation in implementing or enforcing the rule changes.

- G. A determination of whether implementation of the proposed rule will have an adverse effect on small business as provided by the Oklahoma Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act:

The agency does not anticipate that the proposed rule changes will have an adverse effect on small businesses.

- H. An explanation of the measures the agency has taken to minimize compliance costs and a determination of whether there are less costly or non-regulatory methods or less intrusive methods for achieving the purpose of the proposed rule:

The agency has taken measures to determine that there are no other legal methods to achieve the purpose of the proposed rule. Measures included a formal public comment period and tribal consultation.

- I. A determination of the effect of the proposed rule on the public health, safety and environment and, if the proposed rule is designed to reduce significant risks to the public health, safety and environment, an explanation of the nature of the risk and to what extent the proposed rule will reduce the risk:

The proposed rule should have no adverse effect on the public health, safety or environment.

- J. A determination of any detrimental effect on the public health, safety and environment if the proposed rule is not implemented:

The agency does not anticipate any detrimental effect on the public health and safety if the proposed rule is not passed.

- K. The date the rule impact statement was prepared and if modified, the date modified:

Prepared date: November 4, 2021

Modified date: December 27, 2021

**TITLE 317. OKLAHOMA HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY
CHAPTER 35. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN-
ELIGIBILITY**

SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

317:35-1-2. Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in this Chapter, have the following meaning, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"**Acute Care Hospital**" means an institution that meets the requirements defined in Section (§) 440.10 of Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) and:

(A) ~~is~~Is maintained primarily for the care and treatment of patients with disorders other than mental diseases;

(B) ~~is~~Is formally licensed or formally approved as a hospital by an officially designated authority for state standard setting; and

(C) ~~meets~~Meets the requirements for participation in Medicare as a hospital.

"Adult" means an individual twenty-one (21) years of age or older, unless otherwise specified by statute, regulation, and/or policy adopted by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA). For eligibility criteria policy for children and adults, please refer to Oklahoma Administrative Code (OAC) 317:35-5-2.

"ADvantage Administration (AA)" means the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS) which performs certain administrative functions related to the ADvantage Waiver.

"Aged" means an individual whose age is established as sixty-five (65) years or older.

"Agency partner" means an agency or organization contracted with the OHCA that will assist those applying for services.

"Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)" means the group of low-income families with children described in Section 1931 of the Social Security Act. The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 established the new eligibility group of low-income families with children and linked eligibility income and resource standards and methodologies and the requirement for deprivation for the new group to the State plan for AFDC in effect on July 16, 1996. Oklahoma has elected to be less restrictive for all SoonerCare members related to AFDC. ~~Effective January 1, 2014, children~~ Children covered under Section 1931 are related to the children's group, and adults covered under Section 1931 are related to the parent and caretaker relative group. The Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) methodology is used to determine eligibility for these groups.

"Alien" is synonymous with the word "noncitizen" and means an individual who does not have United States citizenship and is not a United States national.

"Area nurse" means a registered nurse in the OKDHS Aging Services Division, designated according to geographic areas who evaluates the Uniform Comprehensive Assessment Tool (UCAT) and determines medical eligibility for Personal Care, ADvantage Waiver, and Nursing Facility services. The area nurse also approves care plan and service plan implementation for Personal Care services.

"Area nurse designee" means a registered nurse selected by the area nurse who evaluates the UCAT and determines medical eligibility for Personal Care, ADvantage Waiver, and Nursing Facility services.

"Authority" means the OHCA.

"Blind" means an individual who has central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with the use of a correcting lens.

"Board" means the OHCA Board.

"Buy-in" means the procedure whereby the OHCA pays the member's Medicare premium.

(A) **"Part A Buy-in"** means the procedure whereby the OHCA pays the Medicare Part A premium for individuals determined eligible as Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries Plus (QMBP) who are enrolled in Part A and are not eligible for premium free enrollment as explained under Medicare Part A. This also includes individuals determined to be eligible as Qualified Disabled and Working Individuals (QDWI).

(B) **"Part B Buy-in"** means the procedure whereby the OHCA pays the Medicare Part B premium for categorically needy individuals who are eligible for Part B Medicare. This includes individuals who receive TANF or the State Supplemental Payment to the Aged, Blind or Disabled, and those determined to be Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Plus (QMBP), Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLMB) or Qualifying Individual-1 (QI-1). Also included are individuals who continue to be categorically needy under the PICKLE amendment and those who retain eligibility after becoming employed.

"Caretaker relative" means a person other than the biological or adoptive parent with whom the child resides who meets the specified degree of relationship within the fifth degree of kinship.

"Case management" means the activities performed for members to assist them in accessing services, advocacy and problem solving related to service delivery.

"Categorically needy" means that income and, when applicable, resources are within the standards for the category to which the individual is related.

"Categorically related" or **"related"** means the individual meets basic eligibility requirements for an eligibility group.

"Certification period" means the period of eligibility extending from the effective date of certification to the date of termination of eligibility or the date of the next periodic redetermination of eligibility.

"Child" means an individual under twenty-one (21) years of age, unless otherwise specified by statute, regulation, and/or policy adopted by the OHCA. For eligibility criteria policy for children and adults, please refer to OAC 317:35-5-2.

"County" means the Oklahoma OKDHS' office or offices located in each county within the State.

"Custody" means the custodial status, as reported by OKDHS.

"Deductible/Coinsurance" means the payment that must be made by or on behalf of an individual eligible for Medicare before Medicare payment is made. The coinsurance is that part of the allowable medical expense not met by Medicare, which must be paid by or on behalf of an individual after the deductible has been met.

(A) For Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance), the deductible relates to benefits for inpatient services while the patient is in a hospital or nursing facility. After the deductible is met, Medicare pays the remainder of the allowable cost.

(B) For Medicare Part B (Medical Insurance), the deductible is an annual payment that must be made before Medicare payment for medical services. After the deductible is met, Medicare pays eighty percent (80%) of the allowable charge. The remaining twenty percent (20%) is the coinsurance.

"Disabled" means an individual who is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death, or which has lasted (or can be expected to last) for a continuous period of not less than twelve (12) months.

"Disabled child" means for purposes of Medicaid Recovery a child of any age who is blind, or permanently and totally disabled according to standards set by the Social Security Administration.

"Estate" means all real and personal property and other assets included in the member's estate as defined in Title 58 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

"Expansion adult" means an individual defined by 42 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) § 435.119 who is age nineteen (19) or older and under sixty-five (65), at or below 133 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL), and who are not related to the aged, blind, or disabled.

"Gatekeeping" means the performance of a comprehensive assessment by the OKDHS nurse utilizing the UCAT for the determination of ~~Medical~~ medical eligibility, care plan development, and the determination of Level of Care for Personal Care, ADvantage Waiver and Nursing Facility services.

"Ineligible Spouse" means an individual who is not eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) but is the husband or wife of someone who is receiving SSI.

"Lawfully present" means a noncitizen in the United States who is considered to be in lawful immigration status or class.

"Lawfully residing" means the individual is lawfully present in the United States and also meets Medicaid residency requirements.

"Local office" means the Oklahoma OKDHS' office or offices located in each county within the State.

"LOCEU" means the Oklahoma Health Care Authority's Level of Care Evaluation Unit.

"MAGI eligibility group" means an eligibility group whose financial eligibility is determined through the Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) methodology. The groups subject to MAGI are defined in 42 C.F.R. § 436.603 and listed in OAC 317:35-6-1.

"Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI)" means the financial eligibility determination methodology established by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) in 2009.

"Medicare" means the federally funded health insurance program also known as Title XVIII of the Social Security Act. It consists of four (4) separate programs. Part A is Hospital Insurance, Part B is Medical Insurance, Part C is Medicare Advantage Plans, and Part D is Prescription Drug Coverage.

(A) **"Part A Medicare"** means Hospital Insurance that covers services for inpatient services while the patient is in a hospital or nursing facility. Premium free enrollment is provided for all persons receiving OASDI Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (OASDI) or Railroad Retirement income who are age sixty-five (65) or older and for those under age sixty-five (65) who have been receiving disability benefits under these programs for at least twenty-four (24) months.

(i) Persons with end-stage renal disease who require dialysis treatment or a kidney transplant may also be covered.

(ii) Those who do not receive OASDI or Railroad Retirement income must be age sixty-five (65) or over and pay a large premium for this coverage. Under Authority rules, these individuals are not required to enroll for Part A to be eligible for SoonerCare benefits as categorically needy. They must, however, enroll for Medicare Part B. Individuals eligible as a QMBP or as a QDWI under Medicaid are required to enroll for Medicare Part A. The Authority will pay Part A premiums for QMBP individuals who do not qualify for premium free Part A and for all QDWI's.

(B) **"Part B Medicare"** means Supplemental Medical Insurance that covers physician and related medical services other than inpatient or nursing facility care. Individuals eligible to enroll in Medicare Part B are required to do so under OHCA policy. A monthly premium is required to keep this coverage in effect.

"Minor child" means a child under the age of eighteen (18).

"Noncitizen" is synonymous with the word "alien" and means an individual who does not have United States citizenship and is not a United States national.

"Nursing Care" for the purpose of Medicaid Recovery is care received in a nursing facility, an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICF/IIDs) or other medical institution providing nursing and convalescent care, on a continuing basis, by professional personnel who are responsible to the institution for professional medical services.

"OCSS" means the OKDHS' Oklahoma Child Support Services (formerly Child Support Enforcement Division).

"OHCA" means the Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

"OHCA Eligibility Unit" means the group within the OHCA that assists with the eligibility determination process.

~~"OKDHS" means the Oklahoma Department of Human Services.~~ **"OKDHS"** means the Oklahoma Department of Human Services which is also referenced in rules as Department of Human Services (DHS) and Office of Human Services (OHS).

"OKDHS nurse" means a registered nurse in the OKDHS Aging Services Division who meets the certification requirements for UCAT Assessor and case manager, and who conducts the uniform assessment of individuals utilizing the UCAT for the purpose of medical eligibility determination. The OKDHS nurse also develops care plans and service plans for Personal Care services based on the UCAT.

"Qualified Disabled and Working Individual (QDWI)" means individuals who have lost their Title II OASDI benefits due to excess earnings, but have been allowed to retain Medicare coverage.

"Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Plus (QMBP)" means certain aged, blind or disabled individuals who may or may not be enrolled in Medicare Part A, meet the Medicaid QMBP income and resource standards and meet all other Medicaid eligibility requirements.

"Qualifying Individual" means certain aged, blind or disabled individuals who are enrolled in Medicare Part A, meet the Medicaid Qualifying Individual income and resource standards and meet all other Medicaid eligibility requirements.

"Qualifying Individual-1" means a Qualified Individual who meets the Qualifying Individual-1 income and resource standards.

"Reasonably compatible" means that there is no significant discrepancy between information declared by a member or applicant and other information available to the agency. More specific policies and procedures for determining whether a declaration is reasonably compatible are detailed in Oklahoma's Verification Plan.

"Recipient lock-in" means when a member is restricted to one primary physician and/or one pharmacy. It occurs when the OHCA determines that a SoonerCare member has used multiple physicians and/or pharmacies in an excessive manner over a twelve (12) month period.

"Scope" means the covered medical services for which payment is made to providers on behalf of eligible individuals. The OHCA Provider Manual (OAC 317:30) contains information on covered medical services.

"Specified Low Income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLMB)" means individuals who, except for income, meet all of the eligibility requirements for QMBP eligibility and are enrolled in Medicare Part A.

"TEFRA" means the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (Public Law 97-248). TEFRA provides coverage to certain disabled children living in the home who would qualify for SoonerCare if residents of nursing facilities, ~~ICF/HDs~~ Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IIDs), or inpatient acute care hospital stays are expected to last not less than sixty (60) days.

"Worker" means the OHCA or OKDHS worker responsible for assisting in eligibility determinations.

SUBCHAPTER 5. ELIGIBILITY AND COUNTABLE INCOME

PART 3. NON-MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

317:35-5-25. Citizenship/~~alien~~noncitizen status and identity verification requirements

(a) **Citizenship/~~alien~~noncitizen status and identity verification requirements.** Verification of citizenship/~~alien~~noncitizen status and identity ~~are~~is required for all adults and children approved for SoonerCare. An exception is individuals who are initially eligible for SoonerCare as deemed newborns; according to Section 1903(x) of the Social Security Act, they will not be required to further document citizenship or identity at any subsequent SoonerCare eligibility redetermination. They are considered to have provided satisfactory documentation of citizenship and identity by virtue of being born in the United States.

- (1) The types of acceptable evidence that verify identity and citizenship include:
 - (A) United States (U.S.) ~~Passport~~passport;
 - (B) Certificate of Naturalization issued by U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS)(Form N-550 or N-570);
 - (C) Certificate of Citizenship issued by USCIS (Form N-560 or N-561);
 - (D) Copy of the Medicare card or printout of a ~~BENDEX~~Beneficiary Earnings and Data Exchange (BENDEX) or ~~SDX~~State Data Exchange (SDX) screen showing receipt of Medicare benefits, Supplemental Security Income or disability benefits from the Social Security Administration; or
 - (E) Tribal membership card or Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) card, with a photograph of the individual.
- (2) The types of acceptable evidence that verify citizenship but require additional steps to obtain satisfactory evidence of identity are listed in subparagraphs (A) and (B). Subparagraph (A) lists the most reliable forms of verification and is to be used before using items listed in (B). Subparagraph (B) lists those verifications that are less reliable forms of verification and are used only when the items in (A) are not attainable.
 - (A) Most reliable forms of citizenship verification are:
 - (i) A U.S. public Birth Certificate showing birth in one (1) of the ~~50~~fifty (50) states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico (on or after 1/13/1941), Guam (on or after 4/10/1899), the U.S. Virgin Islands (on or after 1/17/1917), American Samoa, Swain's Island, or the Northern Mariana Islands after 11/4/1986. For Puerto Ricans whose eligibility is being determined for the first time on or after October 1, 2010 and using a birth certificate to verify citizenship, the birth certificate must be a certified birth certificate issued by Puerto Rico on or after July 1, 2010;
 - (ii) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad of a U.S. citizen issued by the Department of Homeland Security or a Certification of ~~birth~~Birth issued by the State Department (Form FS-240, FS-545 or DS-1350);
 - (iii) A U.S. Citizen ~~ID~~Identification Card (Form I-179 or I-197);
 - (iv) A Northern Mariana Identification Card (Form I-873) (Issued by the former INS to a collectively naturalized citizen of the U.S. who was born in the Northern Mariana Islands before 11/3/1986);
 - (v) An American Indian Card issued by the Department of Homeland Security with the classification code "KIC" (Form I-872);
 - (vi) A ~~Final Adoption Decree~~final adoption decree showing the child's name and ~~U.S.~~U.S. place of birth;
 - (vii) Evidence of U.S. Civil Service employment before 6/1/1976;
 - (viii) An Official U.S. Military Record of Service showing a U.S. place of birth (for example a DD-214);

- (ix) Tribal membership card or Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) card, without a photograph of the individual, for Native Americans;
 - (x) Oklahoma ~~Voter Registration Card~~ voter registration card; ~~or~~
 - (xi) Other acceptable documentation as approved by OHCA; or
 - (xii) Other acceptable documentation to the same extent as described and communicated by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) from time to time.
- (B) Other less reliable forms of citizenship verification are:
- (i) An extract of a hospital record on hospital letterhead established at the time of the person's birth that was created five (5) years before the initial application date and that indicates a U.S. place of birth. For children under ~~16~~ sixteen (16) the evidence must have been created near the time of birth or five (5) years before the date of application;
 - (ii) Life, health, or other insurance record showing a U.S. place of birth that was created at least five (5) years before the initial application date and that indicates a U.S. place of birth;
 - (iii) Federal or ~~State~~ state census record showing U.S. citizenship or a U.S. place of birth (generally for persons born 1900 through 1950). The census record must also show the applicant's/member's age; or
 - (iv) One (1) of the following items that show a U.S. place of birth and was created at least five (5) years before the application for SoonerCare. This evidence must be one (1) of the following and show a U.S. place of birth:
 - (I) Seneca Indian tribal census record;
 - (II) Bureau of Indian Affairs tribal census records of the Navajo Indians;
 - (III) U.S. State Vital Statistics official notification of birth registration;
 - (IV) An amended U.S. public birth record that is amended more than five (5) years after the person's birth; or
 - (V) Statement signed by the physician or midwife who was in attendance at the time of birth.
- (3) Acceptable evidence of identity that must accompany citizenship evidence listed in (A) and (B) of paragraph (2) of this subsection includes:
- (A) A driver's license issued by a U.S. state or territory with either a photograph of the individual or other identifying information such as name, age, sex, race, height, weight, or eye color;
 - (B) A school identification card with a photograph of the individual;
 - (C) An identification card issued by ~~Federal~~ federal, state, or local government with the same information included on driver's licenses;
 - (D) A U.S. military card or draft record;
 - (E) A U.S. military dependent's identification card;
 - (F) A Native American Tribal document including Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood, or other U.S. American Indian/Alaska Native Tribal document with a photograph of the individual or other personal identifying information;
 - (G) A U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner card;
 - (H) A state court order placing a child in custody as reported by the OKDHS;
 - (I) For children under ~~16~~ sixteen (16), school records may include nursery or daycare records;

(J) If none of the verification items on the list are available, an affidavit may be used for children under ~~16~~sixteen (16). An affidavit is only acceptable if it is signed under penalty of perjury by a parent or guardian stating the date and place of the birth of the child and cannot be used if an affidavit for citizenship was provided.

(b) Reasonable opportunity to obtain citizenship verification.

~~(1) When the applicant/member is unable to obtain citizenship or alienage verification, a reasonable opportunity is afforded to the applicant/member to obtain the evidence as well as assistance in doing so. A reasonable opportunity is afforded to the applicant/member before taking action affecting the individual's eligibility for SoonerCare. The reasonable opportunity timeframe afforded to SoonerCare members is the same as authorized under Section 1902(ee) of the Social Security Act and is stated on the documentation request the agency sends to the applicant/member. The state provides Medicaid to citizens and nationals of the United States and certain noncitizens, including during a reasonable opportunity period pending verification of citizenship, national status, or immigration status. The reasonable opportunity period begins on the date the notice of reasonable opportunity is received by the individual and extends at minimum ninety (90) days. Receipt by the individual is deemed to occur five (5) days after the date on the notice, unless the individual shows that the notice was not received in the five-day period. The state provides an extension of the reasonable opportunity period if the individual subject to verification is making a good faith effort to resolve any inconsistencies or obtain any necessary documentation, or the state needs more time to complete the verification process. The state begins to furnish benefits to otherwise eligible individuals on the date of application containing the declaration of citizenship or immigration status and throughout the reasonable opportunity period.~~

(2) The following methods of verification are the least reliable forms of verification and should only be used as a last resort:

(A) Institutional admission papers from a nursing facility, skilled care facility or other institution. Admission papers generally show biographical information for the person including place of birth; the record can be used to establish U.S. citizenship when it shows a U.S. place of birth;

(B) Medical (clinic, doctor, or hospital) record created at least five (5) years before the initial application date that indicates a U.S. place of birth. For children under the age of sixteen (16), the document must have been created near the time of birth. Medical records generally show biographical information for the person including place of birth; the record can be used to establish U.S. citizenship when it shows a U.S. place of birth. An immunization record is not considered a medical record for purposes of establishing U.S. citizenship;

(C) Written affidavit. Affidavits are only used in rare circumstances. If the verification requirements need to be met through affidavits, the following rules apply:

(i) There must be at least two (2) affidavits by two (2) individuals who have personal knowledge of the event(s) establishing the applicant's/member's claim of citizenship;

(ii) At least one (1) of the individuals making the affidavit cannot be related to the applicant/member;

(iii) In order for the affidavit to be acceptable, the persons making them must be able to provide proof of their own citizenship and identity;

- (iv) If the individual(s) making the affidavit has information which explains why evidence establishing the applicant's/member's claim of citizenship does not exist or cannot be readily obtained, the affidavit must contain this information as well;
- (v) The State must obtain a separate affidavit from the applicant/member or other knowledgeable individual (guardian or representative) explaining why the evidence does not exist or cannot be obtained; and
- (vi) The affidavits must be signed under penalty of perjury.

(c) ~~Alienage verification requirements~~ **Noncitizen eligibility.** SoonerCare services are provided as ~~listed~~ described to the defined groups as indicated in this subsection if they meet all other factors of eligibility, including but not limited to residency requirements, and if the relevant noncitizen status is verifiable by federally approved means. ~~Persons determined as having lawful alien status must have the status verified through Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement (SAVE).~~

~~(1) Eligible aliens (qualified aliens).~~ The groups listed in the following subparagraphs are eligible for the full range of SoonerCare services. A qualified alien is:

~~(A) an alien who was admitted to the United States and has resided in the United States for a period greater than five (5) years from the date of entry and who was:~~

- ~~(i) lawfully admitted for permanent residence under the Immigration and Nationality Act;~~
- ~~(ii) paroled into the United States under Section 212(d)(5) of such Act for a period of at least one (1) year;~~
- ~~(iii) granted conditional entry pursuant to Section 203(a)(7) of such Act as in effect prior to April 1, 1980; or~~
- ~~(iv) a battered spouse, battered child, or parent or child of a battered person with a petition under 204(a)(1)(A) or (B) or 244(a)(3) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act.~~

~~(B) an alien who was admitted to the United States and who was:~~

- ~~(i) granted asylum under Section 208 of such Act regardless of the date asylum is granted;~~
- ~~(ii) a refugee admitted to the United States under Section 207 of such Act regardless of the date admitted;~~
- ~~(iii) an alien with deportation withheld under Section 243(h) of such Act regardless of the date deportation was withheld;~~
- ~~(iv) a Cuban or Haitian entrant as defined in Section 501(e) of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980, regardless of the date of entry;~~
- ~~(v) an alien who is a veteran as defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101, with a discharge characterized as an honorable discharge and not on the grounds of alienage;~~
- ~~(vi) an alien who is on active duty, other than active duty for training, in the Armed Forces of the United States;~~
- ~~(vii) the spouse or unmarried dependent child of an individual described in (C) of this paragraph;~~
- ~~(viii) a victim of a severe form of trafficking pursuant to Section 107(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000; or~~
- ~~(ix) admitted as an Amerasian immigrant.~~

~~(C) permanent residents who first entered the country under (B) of this paragraph and who later converted to lawful permanent residence status.~~

~~(2) **Other aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence (non-qualified aliens).** Non-qualified aliens are those individuals who were admitted to the United States and who do not meet any of the definitions in paragraph (1) of this subsection. Non-qualified aliens are ineligible for SoonerCare for five (5) years from the date of entry except that non-qualified aliens are eligible for emergency services only when the individual has a medical condition (including emergency labor and delivery) with acute symptoms which may result in placing his/her health in serious jeopardy, serious impairment to bodily functions or serious dysfunction of body organ or part without immediate medical attention, in accordance with 317:30-3-32. The only exception is when a pregnant woman qualifies under the pregnancy related benefits covered under the Title XXI program because the newborn child will meet the citizenship requirement at birth.~~

~~(3) **Afghan Special Immigrants.** Afghan special immigrants, as defined in Public Law 110-161, who have special immigration status after December 26, 2007, are exempt from the five (5) year period of ineligibility for SoonerCare services. All other eligibility requirements must be met to qualify for SoonerCare services. If these individuals do not meet one of the categorical relationships, they may apply and be determined eligible for Refugee Medical Assistance. Afghan special immigrants are considered lawful permanent residents.~~

~~(4) **Iraqi Special Immigrants.** Iraqi special immigrants, as defined in Public Law 110-181, who have special immigration status after January 28, 2008, are exempt from the five (5) year period of ineligibility for SoonerCare services. All other eligibility requirements must be met to qualify for SoonerCare services. If these individuals do not meet one of the categorical relationships, they may apply and be determined eligible for Refugee Medical Assistance. Iraqi special immigrants are considered lawful permanent residents.~~

~~(5) **Undocumented aliens.** Undocumented aliens who do not meet any of the definitions in (1) (2) of this subsection are eligible for emergency services only when the individual has a medical condition (including emergency labor and delivery) with acute symptoms which may result in placing his/her health in serious jeopardy, serious impairment to bodily functions or serious dysfunction of body organ or part without immediate medical attention, in accordance with 30-3-32. The only exception is when a pregnant woman qualifies under the pregnancy related benefits covered under the Title XXI program because the newborn child will meet the citizenship requirement at birth.~~

~~(6) **Ineligible aliens.**~~

~~(A) Ineligible aliens who do not fall into the categories in (1) and (2) of this subsection, yet have been lawfully admitted for temporary or specified periods of time include, but are not limited to: foreign students, visitors, foreign government representatives, crewmen, members of foreign media and temporary workers including agricultural contract workers. This group is ineligible for SoonerCare, including emergency services, because of the temporary nature of their admission status. The only exception is when a pregnant woman qualifies under the pregnancy related benefits covered under the Title XXI program because the newborn child will meet the citizenship requirement at birth.~~

~~(B) These individuals are generally issued Form I-94, Arrival Departure Record, on which an expiration date is entered. This form is not the same Form I-94 that is issued to persons who have been paroled into the United States. Parolees carry a Form I-94 that is titled "Arrival Departure Record B Parole Edition". Two other forms that do not give the individual "Immigrant" status are Form I-186, Nonresident Alien Mexican Border Crossing Card, and Form SW-434, Mexican Border Visitors Permit.~~

~~(d) **Alienage.** A decision regarding eligibility cannot be made until the eligibility condition of citizenship and alienage is determined.~~

~~(1) **Immigrants.** Aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States are classified as immigrants by the USCIS. These are individuals who entered this country with the express intention of residing here permanently.~~

~~(2) **Parolees.** Under Section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, individuals can be paroled into the United States for an indefinite or temporary period at the discretion of the United States Attorney General. Individuals admitted as Parolees are considered to meet the "citizenship and alienage" requirement.~~

~~(3) **Refugees and Western Hemisphere aliens.** Under Section 203(a)(7) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Refugees and Western Hemisphere aliens may be lawfully admitted to the United States if, because of persecution or fear of prosecution due to race, religion, or political opinion, they have fled from a Communist or Communist-dominated country or from the area of the Middle East; or if they are refugees from natural catastrophes. These entries meet the citizenship and alienage requirement. Western Hemisphere aliens will meet the citizenship requirement for SoonerCare if they can provide either of the documents in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph as proof of their alien status.~~

~~(A) Form I-94 endorsed "Voluntary Departure Granted-Employment Authorized", or~~

~~(B) The following court-ordered notice sent by USCIS to each of those individuals permitted to remain in the United States: "Due to a Court Order in Silva vs. Levi, 76 C4268 entered by District Judge John F. Grady in the District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, we are taking no action on your case. This means that you are permitted to remain in the United States without threat of deportation or expulsion until further notice. Your employment in the United States is authorized".~~

~~(4) **Special provisions relating to Kickapoo Indians.** Kickapoo Indians migrating between Mexico and the United States carry Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record (Parole Edition). If Form I-94 carries the statement that the Kickapoo is "paroled pursuant to Section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act" or that the "Kickapoo status is pending clarification of status by Congress" regardless of whether such statements are preprinted or handwritten and regardless of a specific mention of the "treaty", they meet the "citizenship and alienage" requirement. All Kickapoo Indians paroled in the United States must renew their paroled status each year at any local Immigration Office. There are other Kickapoos who have entered the United States from Mexico who carry Form I-151 or Form I-551, Alien Registration Receipt Cards. These individuals have the same status as other individuals who have been issued Form I-151 or Form I-551 and, therefore, meet the citizenship and alienage requirements. Still other Kickapoos are classified as Mexican Nationals by the USCIS. They carry Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record, which has been issued as a visiting visa and does not make mention of the treaty. Such form does not meet the "citizenship and alienage" requirements but provides only the ineligible alien status described in (c)(4)(b) of this Section.~~

~~(5) **American Indians born in Canada.** An American Indian born in Canada, who has maintained residence in the United States since entry, is considered to be lawfully admitted for permanent residence if he/she is of at least one-half (1/2) American Indian blood. This does not include the non-citizen whose membership in an Indian tribe or family is created by adoption, unless such person is of at least fifty (50) percent or more Indian blood. The methods of documentation are birth or baptismal certificate issued on a reservation, tribal records, letter from the Canadian Department of Indian Affairs, or school records.~~

~~(6) **Permanent non-immigrants.** Marshall Islanders and individuals from the Republic of Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia are classified as permanent non-immigrants by USCIS. They are eligible for emergency services only, in accordance with 30-3-32.~~

(1) **Unauthorized resident noncitizen.** An unauthorized resident noncitizen is a foreign-born individual who is not lawfully present in the United States, regardless of having had authorization during a prior period. Unauthorized resident noncitizens have formerly been known as “illegal” or “undocumented” immigrants or “aliens”. Per 8 U.S.C. 1611(a) and (b)(1)(A) an unauthorized resident noncitizen is ineligible for Title XIX Medicaid benefits except for emergency Medicaid as defined at subparagraph (e) below. However, an unauthorized resident noncitizen who is pregnant is eligible for benefits under Title XXI separate Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for services that benefit the unborn child, if the unborn child meets all eligibility requirements.

(2) **Authorized resident noncitizen, not qualified.** An authorized resident noncitizen is a foreign-born individual who is lawfully present in the United States (U.S.) and is lawfully residing in the U.S., but who does not meet the definition of qualified noncitizen, per 8 U.S.C. 1611(a) and (b)(1)(A). The Oklahoma Medicaid program does not exercise the CHIPRA 214 option; therefore, an authorized resident noncitizen is ineligible for Title XIX or Title XXI Medicaid benefits except for emergency Medicaid as defined at subparagraph (e) below. However, an authorized resident noncitizen who is pregnant is eligible for benefits under Title XXI separate CHIP for services that benefit the unborn child, if the unborn child meets all eligibility requirements.

(3) **Qualified noncitizen.** A “qualified noncitizen” is an authorized resident noncitizen who, at the time of applying for Medicaid, has a “qualified noncitizen” immigration status as identified at 8 U.S.C. 1641, as may be amended from time to time. Any qualified noncitizen is eligible for full Title XIX Medicaid benefits after a five-year waiting period beginning on the date of the noncitizen’s entry into the U.S. with an immigration status identified as “qualified noncitizen” if the noncitizen meets all other eligibility criteria at the end of the waiting period. During the waiting period, as per 8 U.S.C. 1613(a), any qualified noncitizen is eligible to receive emergency Medicaid as described in subparagraph (e) below if the noncitizen meets all other eligibility requirements, including but not limited to residency requirements.

(A) **Qualified noncitizen immigration statuses.** Immigration statuses identified by federal law as “qualified noncitizen”, as of November 2, 2021, include:

- (i) A noncitizen who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence under the Immigration and Nationality Act [INA], per 8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.;
- (ii) A noncitizen who is granted asylum under INA section 208, per 8 U.S.C. 1158;
- (iii) A noncitizen who is admitted to the U.S. under INA section 207 refugee, per 8 U.S.C. 1157;
- (iv) A noncitizen who is paroled into the U.S. under INA section 212(d)(5), per 8 U.S.C. 1182(d)(5), for a period of at least one (1) year;
- (v) A noncitizen whose deportation is being withheld under INA section 243(h), per 8 U.S.C. 1253 (as in effect immediately before the effective date of section 307 of division C of Public Law 104–208) or section 241(b)(3) of such Act, per 8 U.S.C. 1231(b)(3) (as amended by section 305(a) of division C of Public Law 104–208);
- (vi) A noncitizen who is granted conditional entry before 1980 pursuant to INA section 203(a)(7), per 8 U.S.C. 1153(a)(7), as in effect prior to April 1, 1980;

(vii) A noncitizen who is a Cuban and Haitian entrant (as defined in section 501(e) of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980);

(viii) A noncitizen who, or whose parent or child, has been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty in the U.S. by a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident spouse or parent or by a member of the spouse's or parent's family residing in the same household, except during any period in which the individual responsible for such battery or cruelty resides in the same household or family eligibility unit as the individual subjected to such battery or cruelty and only when the alien meets all of the following requirements:

(I) The noncitizen, if not the individual subjected to battery or extreme cruelty, had no active participation in the battery or cruelty;

(II) The noncitizen is a credible victim; and

(III) The noncitizen is able to show a substantial connection between the need for benefits sought and the batter or extreme cruelty; and

(IV) The noncitizen has been approved or has a petition pending which sets forth a prima facie case for one of the following: status as a spouse or child of a U.S. citizen under INA 204(a)(1)(A); classification under INA 204(a)(1)(B)(ii) or (iii); suspension of deportation under INA 244(a)(3); status as a spouse or child of a U.S. citizen under INA 204(a)(1)(A); or classification under INA 204(a)(1)(B); or cancellation of removal under INA 240A(b)(2).

(ix) A noncitizen who is or has been a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons and who has been granted nonimmigrant status under INA 101(a)(15)(T) or who has a pending application that sets forth a prima facie case for eligibility for such immigration status; or

(x) Beginning December 27, 2020, a noncitizen who lawfully resides in the state in accordance with the Compacts of Free Association between the Government of the United States and the Governments of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

(B) Five-year wait exception for refugees and asylees.

(i) Excepted from the five-year waiting period per 8 U.S.C. 1612(b)(2)(A), the following qualified noncitizens are immediately eligible for a Medicaid determination upon the date:

(I) A noncitizen is admitted to the U.S. as a refugee under INA section 207 [INA 207 Refugee], per 8 U.S.C. 1157;

(II) A noncitizen is granted asylum under INA section 208, per 8 U.S.C. 1158;

(III) A noncitizen's deportation is withheld under INA section 243(h), per 8 U.S.C. 1253 (as in effect immediately before the effective date of section 307 of division C of Public Law 104-208) or section 241(b)(3) of such Act, per 8 U.S.C. 1231(b)(3) (as amended by section 305(a) of division C of Public Law 104-208);

(IV) A noncitizen is granted status as a Cuban and Haitian entrant (as defined in section 501(e) of the Refugee Education Assistance Act of 1980); or

(V) A noncitizen is admitted to the U.S. as an Amerasian immigrant under the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1988, section 584.

(ii) This exception to the five-year waiting period expires seven (7) years after the date of action indicated in the list at (c)(3)(B)(i) above. Upon expiration of the exception, the five-year waiting period must be calculated.

(C) Five-year wait exception for certain permanent resident noncitizens. The five-year waiting period does not apply and the noncitizen is immediately eligible for a Medicaid determination per 8 U.S.C. 1612(b)(2)(B), if:

(i) The noncitizen is lawfully admitted to the U.S. for permanent residence;

(ii) The noncitizen has either:

(I) worked forty (40) qualifying quarters of coverage as defined under the Act;

or

(II) can be credited with such qualifying quarters as provided under 8 U.S.C. 1645; and

(iii) In the case of any such qualifying quarters creditable for any period beginning after December 31, 1996, the noncitizen did not receive any federal means-tested public benefit during any such period.

(D) Five-year wait exception for veteran and active-duty noncitizens. As per 8 U.S.C. 1612(b)(2)(C) and 1613, the five-year waiting period does not apply, and the noncitizen is immediately eligible for a Medicaid determination if the noncitizen is a qualified noncitizen who is lawfully residing in the state and is:

(i) A veteran (as defined at INA sections 101, 1101, or 1301, or as described at 38 U.S.C. section 107) with a discharge characterized as an honorable discharge and not on account of noncitizenship and who fulfills the minimum active-duty service requirements of 38 U.S.C. section 5303A(d);

(ii) On active duty (other than active duty for training) in the Armed Forces of the United States; or

(iii) The spouse or unmarried dependent child of an individual described herein as a veteran or active-duty noncitizen; or

(iv) The unremarried surviving spouse of an individual described herein as a veteran or active-duty noncitizen who is deceased, if the marriage fulfills the requirements of 38 U.S.C. section 1304.

(E) Five-year wait exception for COFA migrants. Per 8 U.S.C. 1613(b)(3) and as of December 27, 2020, any noncitizen who lawfully resides in the state in accordance with the Compacts of Free Association between the Government of the United States and the Governments of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau is, with regard to the Medicaid program, are not subject to the five-year waiting period unless and until the individual's status is adjusted to lawful permanent resident (LPR), at which time the five year waiting period must be calculated, unless the individual meets a separate exception to the five-year waiting period:

(i) If the individual entered the U.S. before December 27, 2020, and the date of adjustment to LPR status occurred before December 27, 2020, then the waiting period begins on the date of adjustment and ends after five (5) years;

(ii) If the individual entered the U.S. before December 27, 2020, and the date of adjustment to LPR status occurred after December 27, 2020, the waiting period expires on December 27, 2025; and

(iii) If the individual entered the U.S. after December 27, 2020, and the date of adjustment to LPR status occurred after December 27, 2020, the waiting period begins on the date of entry into the U.S. and ends after five (5) years.

(F) **Five-year wait exception for qualified noncitizens receiving SSI.** Per 8 U.S.C. 1612(b)(2)(F), a qualified noncitizen who is receiving benefits under the supplemental security income program (SSI) under Title XVI of the Act shall be eligible for medical assistance under a state plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act, per 42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq), under the same terms and conditions that apply to other recipients of SSI benefits.

(4) **Special categories of noncitizens and conferred benefits.** For the following noncitizens, federal law has expressly authorized Title XIX Medicaid benefits as described below and at law.

(A) **Certain American Indian / Alaskan Native (AI/AN) noncitizens.** The qualified noncitizen requirement and the five-year waiting period do not apply to any individual who is:

(i) An American Indian born in Canada to whom section 289 of the Immigration and Nationality Act apply, per 8 U.S.C. 1359; or

(ii) A member of a federally recognized Indian tribe as defined at 25 U.S.C. 450b(e).

(B) **Certain Iraqi nationals.**

(i) Public Law 110-181, Section 1244, while in force and as amended from time to time, created a new category of special immigrant for Iraqi nationals, including:

(I) Principal noncitizens who have provided relevant service to the U.S. government, while employed by or on behalf of the U.S. government in Iraq, for not less than 1 year beginning on or after March 20, 2003, and who have experienced or are experiencing an ongoing serious threat as a consequence of that employment; (II) The spouse or surviving spouse of a principal noncitizen; and

(III) The child of a principal noncitizen.

(ii) Public Law 111-118, Section 8120, while in force and as amended from time to time, extended Iraqi special immigrant eligibility for medical assistance to the same extent as INA 207 Refugees are eligible for medical assistance [see subparagraph (c)(3)(B) above] as of December 19, 2009.

(iii) As of August 3, 2021, pursuant to the Office of Refugee Resettlement Policy Letter 21-07, while in force and as may be amended, Iraqi nationals granted special immigrant parole, noncitizens with applications pending for special immigrant status, are also eligible for medical assistance to the same extent as INA 207 Refugees are eligible for medical assistance [see subparagraph (c)(3)(B) above];

(C) **Certain Afghan nationals.**

(i) Public Law 111-8, Section 602, while in force and as amended from time to time, created a new category of special immigrant for Afghan nationals, including:

(I) Principal noncitizens who have provided relevant service to the U.S. government or the International Security Assistance Force, while employed by or on behalf of the U.S. government in Afghan, for not less than one (1) year beginning on or after October 7, 2001, and who have experienced or are experiencing an ongoing serious threat as a consequence of that employment;

(II) The spouse or surviving spouse of a principal noncitizen; and

(III) The child of a principal noncitizen.

(ii) Public Law 111-118, Section 8120, while in force and as amended from time to time, amended Public Law 111-8, Section 602, to extend Afghan special immigrant eligibility for medical assistance to the same extent as INA 207 Refugees are eligible for medical assistance [see subparagraph (c)(3)(B) above] as of December 19, 2009;

(iii) As of August 3, 2021, pursuant to the Office of Refugee Resettlement Policy Letter 21-07, while in force and as may be amended, Afghan nationals granted special immigrant parole, noncitizens with applications pending for special immigrant status, are also eligible for medical assistance to the same extent as INA 207 Refugees are eligible for medical assistance [see subparagraph (c)(3)(B) above];

(iv) Pursuant to Public Law 117-43, Section 2502, while in force and as may be amended from time to time, “applicable individuals” have time-limited eligibility for medical assistance to the same extent as INA 207 Refugees are eligible for medical assistance [See subsection (c)(3)(B) above], until March 21, 2023, or the term of parole, whichever is later. In this subparagraph, the term “applicable individual” includes only:

(I) A citizen or national of Afghanistan or a person with no nationality who last habitually resided in Afghanistan, if the individual is paroled into the U.S. between July 31, 2021, and September 30, 2022;

(II) The spouse or child of an individual described at (c)(3)(C)(iv)(I) of this section, if the spouse or child is paroled into the U.S. after September 30, 2022; and

(III) The parent or legal guardian of an individual described at (c)(3)(C)(iv)(I) who is determined to be an unaccompanied child, if the parent or legal guardian is paroled into the U.S. after September 30, 2022.

(d) **Continuing conformance with federal law.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, any noncitizen population that federal law or authority, as amended from time to time, identifies as eligible for medical assistance under Title XIX is eligible for such benefits to the same extent, under the same conditions, and for the same period of time as indicated in the relevant federal law or official federal guidance documents, including any amendments to the law or guidance.

(e) **Emergency Medicaid.** Emergency Medicaid in this section means medical assistance provided to a noncitizen under Title XIX for care and services that are necessary for the treatment of an emergency medical condition, as defined by section 1903(v)(3) of the Act and including labor and delivery but not related to organ transplant procedure, of the noncitizen involved if the noncitizen otherwise meets eligibility requirements for medical assistance under the state plan, including but not limited to residency requirements.