

How to get on TennCare as “Medically Eligible” if you are NOT on TennCare now

Do you have health problems?

You can get TennCare as “medically eligible” if **ALL 5** of these things are true:

1. You have no health insurance (besides a limited policy, such as a cancer policy) **AND**
2. You don’t work **or** your job won’t let you buy insurance there **AND**
3. Your income is below the poverty level **AND**
4. You can show that:
 - You have a serious mental health problem **OR**
 - You have some other health problem.
5. You are a citizen **or** have papers showing you can live in the United States.

Where do I apply?

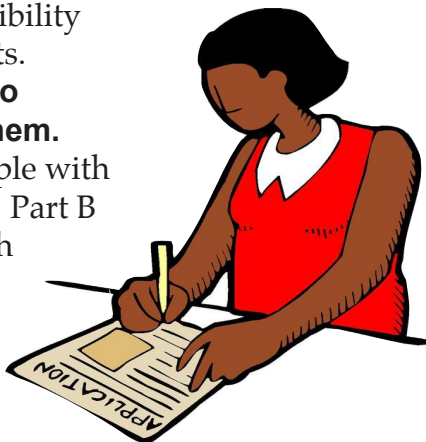
You must apply at the Department of Human Services office in your county. This is also called the Food Stamp or DHS office. First, they check to see if you can get Medicaid or insurance. What if you can’t get Medicaid but have low income and no health insurance? They will tell TennCare. TennCare will send you a set of papers called a **medical eligibility packet**.

How to fill out the medical eligibility packet

The medical eligibility packet has 2 parts.

You only have to fill out one of them.

Part A is for people with health problems. Part B is for people with serious mental health problems.



If you have a **health problem**, fill out **Part A**.

- Answer **all** the questions and list **all** your medical problems.
- Sign and date the papers.
- Ask your doctor or hospital for recent medical records that tell about your health problems.
- Attach your medical records to the Part A papers.
- Attach a check or money order for \$25. This is the application fee you must pay.
- Make and keep a copy of the papers you filled out and signed.
- Mail the original papers to TennCare.
- Send them by certified mail. Ask for a return receipt.

If you have a **serious mental health problem**, fill out **Part B**.

- Take the medical eligibility papers to your local mental health center. Not sure where your local mental health center is? Call the TennCare Partners Advocacy Line at **1-800-758-1638** to find out.
- Your local mental health center must sign Part B and mail it for you.
- Ask them to give you a copy of the papers to keep.

For both Part A and Part B:

TennCare must get the papers by the date printed on the papers. What if there is no date printed on your papers? Then TennCare must get the papers within 45 days. The 45 days start on the date they mailed the packet to you.