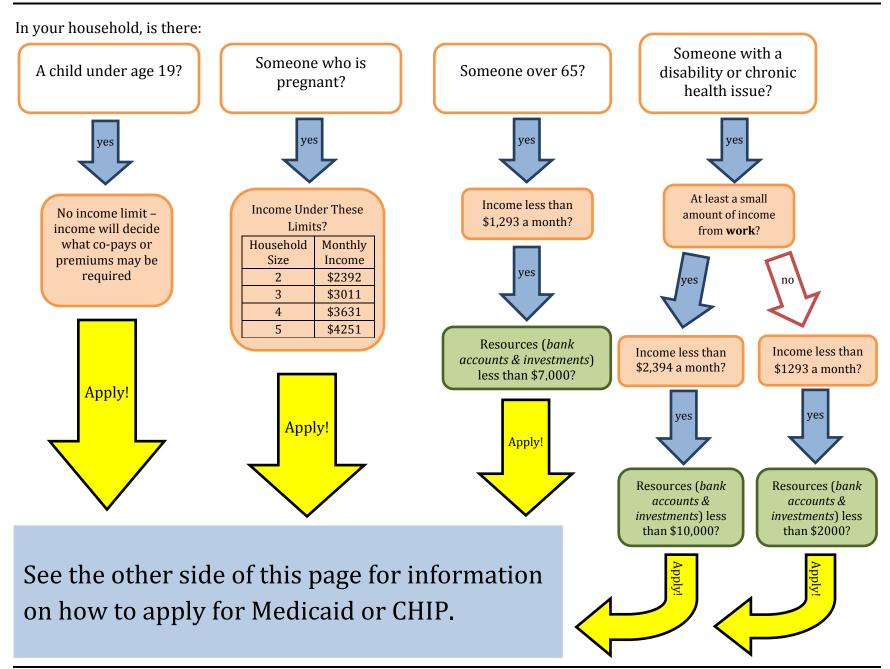
## **Should I Apply for Medicaid or CHIP?**





## How do I apply for Medicaid or CHIP?

There are three ways to apply:

- **Online** at https://www.humanservices.state.pa.us/compass
- By mail
  - o You can download an application form at: <a href="http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/applyforbenefits/index.htm">http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/applyforbenefits/index.htm</a>
- **In person** at the County Assistance Office

When you apply for Medicaid, the County Assistance Office may also tell you if you are eligible for other benefits, like SNAP (food stamps), cash assistance, child care subsidies, and heating assistance programs (LIHEAP).

The County Assistance Office will also ask for some documents, such as:

- ✓ one month's proof of **income**, like last month's pay stubs
- ✓ proof of **disability** or illness, like a doctor's note, if you're applying because you have a disability or chronic health condition
- ✓ proof of **immigrant or citizenship status**, like a green card or Social Security card
- ✓ proof of **residence**, like a utility bill

Send copies of documents. Keep a copy of the application and the proof you sent.

The County Assistance Office should tell you whether you qualify for Medical Assistance within **30 days** of the day that you apply. If you are denied, you have the right to appeal the denial. For more information about appeals, you can call the Pennsylvania Health Law Project's (PHLP) Helpline at 800-274-3258.

## Fast Facts about Medicaid and CHIP:

- ➤ **Income limits** depend on how many people are in your family. Some income is *disregarded* (not counted), so even if your income is a little bit over the limit, you should still apply.
- **Resource limits** only apply to adults who don't have children in the household.
- For immigrants if you are here legally, you may be eligible for Medicaid or CHIP even if you are not a citizen. If your child is a citizen, your child can get Medicaid or CHIP no matter what your legal status is.