



# Modern Medicaid ALLIANCE

## *Top 10 Medicaid Facts About People with Disabilities*

*Medicaid helps Americans with disabilities. For nearly half – that’s right, **half** – of the 23 million Americans with a disability, Medicaid is a lifeline. It increases access to the care and support they need to stay as healthy as possible. Medicaid health services and innovative programs help them stay employed and in school. Below are ten facts you should know about Medicaid and people with disabilities.*

1. **Nearly 1 in 5 children and more than 1 in 3 adults under the age of 65 with Medicaid have a disability (about 13 million Americans)** and rely on Medicaid for care and support services.<sup>1</sup>
2. **About half of adults with disabilities covered by Medicaid live below the federal poverty level (about 3.5 million Americans),** leaving them with limited resources to pay for health care and support services.<sup>2</sup>
3. **Medicaid covers health care services that are critical to the health of people with disabilities,** including nursing home care, at-home help, and medical equipment like wheelchairs.<sup>3</sup>
4. **Medicaid reimburses school districts to help cover costs associated with providing services to students with special needs,** helping school districts to save valuable resources.<sup>4</sup>
5. **Services that help people with disabilities find jobs are often funded by Medicaid,** allowing them to job hunt while staying healthy.<sup>5</sup>
6. **Medicaid helps keep people with disabilities in their homes** rather than in institutions through the “[Money Follows the Person](#)” program.<sup>6</sup>
7. **Medicaid eligibility for children with disabilities is broader than traditional Medicaid,** allowing more families to receive assistance with out-of-pocket costs.<sup>7</sup>
8. **Medicaid covers Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) services,** which ensure that children with disabilities receive the preventive and health services they need to address their health conditions.<sup>8</sup>
9. **More than half of nonelderly adults on Medicaid with disabilities face challenges related to mobility and/or cognitive functioning,** which require special care – Medicaid helps with daily activities.<sup>9</sup>
10. **Disability organizations work directly with Medicaid programs** to identify opportunities to improve services for people with disabilities and educate the disability community about program changes.<sup>10</sup>

### Full Sources

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/medicaid-works-for-people-with-disabilities>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/medicaid-restructuring-under-the-american-health-care-act-and-nonelderly-adults-with-disabilities/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cbpp.org/research/health/medicaid-works-for-people-with-disabilities>

<sup>4</sup> [http://modernmedicaid.org/medicaid\\_solutions\\_wayne\\_resa/](http://modernmedicaid.org/medicaid_solutions_wayne_resa/)

<sup>5</sup> <https://aspe.hhs.gov/report/improving-employment-outcomes-people-psychiatric-disorders-and-other-disabilities/b-medicare-funding-employment-related-services-and-supports-individuals-psychiatric-disorders-and-other>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.medicare.gov/medicaid/ltss/money-follows-the-person/index.html>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/10-things-to-know-about-medicare-setting-the-facts-straight/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.medicare.gov/medicaid/benefits/epsdt/index.html>

<sup>9</sup> [Kaiser Family Foundation](#)

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Outreach/Partnerships/DisabilityPartnerships.html>