

Verification

| Primary Documents | Explanation |
|---|---|
| U. S. Passport | <p>The Department of State issues this. A U.S. passport does not have to be currently valid to be accepted as evidence of U.S. citizenship, as long as it was originally issued without limitation.</p> <p>NOTE: Spouses and children were sometimes included on one passport through 1980 and the citizenship and identity of the included person can be established when one of these passports is presented.</p> <p>EXCEPTION: Do not accept any passport as evidence of U.S. citizenship when it was issued with a limitation. However, such a passport may be used as proof of identity.</p> |
| Certificate of Naturalization (N-550 or N-570) | The Department of Homeland Security issues for naturalization. |
| Certificate of Citizenship (N-560 or N-561) | The Department of Homeland Security issues certificates of citizenship to individuals who derive citizenship through a parent. |
| Documentation from a Federally-Recognized Indian Tribe | This includes an Indian Tribal enrollment document/card or certificate of degree of Indian blood. If the Tribe has an international border, and the membership includes non-U.S. citizens, the Tribal enrollment/membership document is used. |
| Social Security Administration (SSA) State Verification Exchange System (SVES) Data Match | <p>Information about new applicants for Medicaid and WV CHIP is submitted to SSA through the State Verification Exchange System (SVES). A response from SSA that confirms the data submitted by the state is consistent with SSA data, including citizenship or nationality, is considered equivalent to a primary document.</p> <p>NOTE: Current Medicaid recipients must document citizenship and identity using other methods outlined in this Section.</p> |

In addition to the documents outlined in the chart above, a child born in the U.S. to a woman who was eligible for and receiving Medicaid on the date of the child's birth is exempt from the requirement to provide citizenship and identity documentation. This includes a child born to an ineligible/illegal alien who received Medicaid for the birth only.

2. Secondary Documents to Establish U.S. Citizenship

Secondary evidence of citizenship is used when primary evidence of citizenship is not available. In addition, a second document which establishes identity must also be presented as described in item 5.

Accept any of the documents listed in the chart below as secondary evidence of U.S. citizenship, if the document meets the criteria and there is no indication that the person is not a U.S. citizen.

Applicants or recipients born outside the U.S. must submit a document listed under primary evidence of U.S. citizenship.

Naturalized citizens may submit primary or secondary evidence of citizenship. In rare circumstances, a naturalized citizen can submit a written affidavit to verify citizenship. See item 4 below. The remaining documents in the 3rd and 4th levels are not applicable for naturalized citizens because they require the document to show a U.S. place of birth.

See Section 4.3,A for a child born to a woman who was eligible for and receiving Medicaid on the date of the child's birth. This includes a child born to an ineligible/illegal alien who received Medicaid for the birth only.

NOTE: If a person entered the NMI as a non-immigrant and lived in the NMI since January 1, 1974, this does not constitute continuous domicile and the individual is not a U.S. citizen.

D. DRIVER'S LICENSE DOCUMENTATION TO ESTABLISH BOTH CITIZENSHIP AND IDENTITY

Section 6036(a)(3)(B)(iv) of the DRA permits the use of a valid state-issued driver's license or other identity document described in Section 274A(b)(1)(O) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, only if the state issuing the license or such document requires proof of United States citizenship before issuance of such license or obtains a Social Security Number from the applicant and verifies, before certification, that such number is valid and assigned to the applicant who is a citizen. West Virginia does not have these processes in place at this time. The West Virginia driver's license is valid for identity verification only.

E. REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY

At the time of application or upon redetermination of benefits all applicants and recipients must be given a reasonable opportunity period to provide documents to establish U. S. citizenship or nationality and identity.

1. Applicants

The reasonable opportunity period for applicants to provide documentation of citizenship is 45 days. An extension period, not to exceed 45 days, may be granted. The reason for the extension must be recorded in RAPIDS. The AG is initially approved for Medicaid or WV CHIP, if otherwise eligible, **pending receipt of SVES match information or the resolution of any inconsistencies. If data inconsistencies can not be resolved, the Medicaid** applicant must provide identity verification within the application processing time-frame. But, if otherwise eligible after providing identity documentation, the AG is approved and provided the reasonable opportunity period to submit citizenship documentation. **WV CHIP applicants are not required to verify identity. WV CHIP applicants are provided the reasonable opportunity period to verify citizenship when SVES data inconsistencies can not be resolved.** If citizenship documentation is not supplied within the reasonable opportunity period, Medicaid is stopped after advance notice.

2. Recipients

Current Medicaid recipients continue to receive benefits until determined ineligible. Medicaid is closed only after the recipient is given a reasonable opportunity period of 45 days to present evidence. This is the reasonable

opportunity period for recipients. The Worker may make an exception to the time limit when a recipient is making a good faith effort to provide the verification, but is unable to do so. The extension period may not exceed 45 days. Any exception must be recorded thoroughly in RAPIDS. The Worker must assist the client to secure verification if necessary.

NOTE: Current WV CHIP recipients are not required to verify citizenship during the certification period or at redetermination unless determined eligible for Medicaid.

NOTE: Individuals who are ineligible for Medicaid coverage due to failure to supply citizenship/identity documentation cannot be approved for WV CHIP. These are individuals who qualify for Medicaid financially and otherwise, but lack the required documentation.

F. APPLICANTS OR RECIPIENTS WHO REQUIRE ASSISTANCE

If the applicant or recipient is homeless, an amnesia victim, mentally impaired, or physically incapacitated and lacks someone who can act for the individual, and cannot provide evidence of U.S. citizenship or identity, the Worker should assist the applicant or recipient to document U.S. citizenship and identity.

G. NOTIFICATION AND FAIR HEARINGS

An applicant or recipient who fails to cooperate with presenting documentary evidence of citizenship may have benefits stopped after advance notice. Current notification procedures and appeal rights must be given if the individual fails to cooperate with the requirement to provide documentary evidence of citizenship.