



South Carolina Medicaid – Eligibility & Levels

Medicaid rules differ by state. This page is for South Carolina only. For people on Medicare, the most common help is a Medicare Savings Program (MSP) through Healthy Connections.

Medicare Savings Programs (2026 – Approximate SC Limits)

Program	What It Helps Pay	Income (approx.)	Resources
QMB	Part A/B premiums, deductibles, coinsurance	\$1,330 single \$1,804 couple	\$9,950 single \$14,910 couple
SLMB	Part B premium	\$1,596 single \$2,164 couple	Same limits
QI	Part B premium (limited slots)	\$1,796 single \$2,435 couple	Same limits

- Most MSP enrollees also get Extra Help with Part D drug costs automatically

Full Medicaid & Dual Eligibility (SC)

- Full dual = Medicare + full SC Medicaid (Healthy Connections) benefits
- Aged, Blind, or Disabled pathway uses income and resource tests
- South Carolina has NOT expanded Medicaid — most childless adults under 65 do not qualify based on income alone (different from North Carolina)

IMPORTANT – SOUTH CAROLINA ONLY

- Limits change and counting rules are detailed — apply even if you are close.
- North Carolina uses different numbers and has expansion — do not use this sheet for NC.
- Official decision is made by SCDHHS / Healthy Connections — HUGS educates, not decides.

How to Apply & Official Contacts

- Apply online: apply.scdhhs.gov
 - Healthy Connections Member Contact Center: 1-888-549-0820 (TTY 1-888-842-3620)
 - Hours: Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. | More info: scdhhs.gov
1. Gather monthly income, bank balances, and Medicare card information.
 2. Apply online or by phone / local eligibility office.
 3. Ask whether Extra Help with Part D is automatic with your MSP.
 4. Keep approval letters — they affect plan costs and may open a SEP.
 5. After you get your determination letter, call HUGS — we will review it and update your Medicare options.

HOW HUGS CAN HELP

We help you understand QMB, SLMB, QI, and dual options in South Carolina and how approval changes your Medicare costs. At HUGS we have no greater joy than to hear that our clients are walking with confidence.