

**249N.4 Iowa health and wellness plan — eligibility.**

1. Except as otherwise provided in [this chapter](#), an individual may participate in the Iowa health and wellness plan if the individual meets all of the following criteria:

- a. Is an eligible individual.
- b. Meets the citizenship or alienage requirements of the medical assistance program, is a resident of Iowa, and provides a social security number upon application for the plan.
- c. Fulfills all other conditions of participation in the Iowa health and wellness plan, including member financial participation pursuant to [section 249N.7](#).

2. An individual who has access to affordable employer-sponsored health care coverage, as defined by rule of the department to align with regulations adopted by the federal internal revenue service under the Affordable Care Act, shall not be eligible for participation in the Iowa health and wellness plan.

3. Each applicant for the Iowa health and wellness plan shall provide to the department all insurance information required by the health insurance premium payment program in accordance with rules adopted by the department.

a. The department may elect to pay the cost of premiums for applicants with access to employer-sponsored health care coverage if the department determines such payment to be cost-effective.

b. Eligibility for the Iowa health and wellness plan is a qualifying event under the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-191.

c. If premium payment is provided under [this subsection](#) for employer-sponsored health care coverage, the Iowa health and wellness plan shall supplement such coverage as necessary to provide the covered benefits specified under [section 249N.5](#).

4. The department shall implement the Iowa health and wellness plan in a manner that ensures that the Iowa health and wellness plan is the payor of last resort.

5. A member is eligible for coverage effective the first day of the month following the month of application for enrollment.

6. Following initial enrollment, a member is eligible for covered benefits for twelve months, subject to program termination and other limitations otherwise specified in [this chapter](#). The department shall review the member's eligibility on at least an annual basis.

[2013 Acts, ch 138, §169, 187](#)