

2402.20.15

REFUGEES UNDER SECTION 207

Effective October 1, 2026, per Section 71109 of the 2025 Budget Reconciliation Act, individuals admitted as refugees under Section 207 of the INA are eligible for full coverage Medicaid only after they adjust to a qualified non-citizen status or meet a federal exemption (Refer to 2402.20.00). **Refugees usually adjust to Lawful Permanent Resident status after 12 months in the U.S. Refugees who adjust to LPR status are exempt from the 5-year bar.**

Note: Individuals who fail to attain or adjust to a federally qualified status should be transitioned to Emergency Services Only Medicaid coverage (ESO) (Refer to 2402.20.50).

Refugees will have USCIS Form I-94 annotated with a stamp showing entry as refugee under Section 207 and date of entry, USCIS Form I-688B annotated "274a.12(a)(3)", or I-766 annotated "A3". USCIS Form I-571 also indicates status as a refugee but does not reflect the date of admission. If Form I-94 is not available, verification must be obtained from the USCIS.

Exception: Individuals who qualify for Refugee Medicaid Assistance (RMA) receive the equivalent of full coverage Medicaid under MA Q. This coverage is effective the month of application through the federally mandated time limit. (Refer to 1620.45.00).