

# Connecting Patients of Reproductive Age to Care and Coverage

Frontline staff play an important role helping connect people of reproductive age to care and coverage. Integrating a few simple steps into your workflow can help strengthen patient experience and connection to needed services.

## 1. Screen un/underinsured patients for eligibility for common Medicaid programs.

- A. Do you live in Illinois?
- B. Are you currently pregnant?
- C. What is your age?
- D. How much do you make per month before taxes?

“Great! Based on your responses it sounds like you may qualify for”:

Program	Income Limit	Citizenship	Duration
ACA Adults (19-64)	<138% FPL Family Income	U.S. Citizen or on path to citizenship	12 months with renewal
Moms & Babies*	<213% FPL Family Income	Any immigration status	Pregnancy & 12 months after
HFS FPP	<213% FPL Indiv. Income	U.S. Citizen or on path to citizenship	12 months
FPPE	<213% FPL Indiv. Income	Any immigration status	Immediate approval, 31-60 days

\*Must be pregnant

If patients do not qualify, provide assurance that you can still meet their care needs and place them on a sliding fee scale.

“No problem. We will never turn you away due to inability to pay.”

## 2. Ensure patients calling for family planning are connected to needed services in a way that is:



### Timely

Patients should be offered a birth control appointment within **2-3 weeks**. Visits for emergency contraception (EC), PEP, or DoxyPEP should be scheduled within 48 hours.



### Flexible:

Appointments for self-administered methods (pill, patch, ring, EC pills) should be made with the **first available primary care provider** and/or may be scheduled for a telehealth slot.



### Confidential:

Anyone **12+** can schedule a birth control, EC, or STI appointment on their own, **without a parent or guardian**.

## Frequently asked questions:

### Is emergency contraception (EC) the same as the abortion pill?

No. EC prevents pregnancy from occurring while abortion pills terminate existing pregnancies.

### Can an IUD be used as emergency contraception?

Yes. Either the copper IUD or progestin IUD can be used as emergency contraception if inserted within 5 days after unprotected sex.

### Do I have to use my parent's insurance?

No. If you have concerns about safety/privacy with your insurance (under parents or partner), you can apply for the HFS FPPE/FPP on your own.