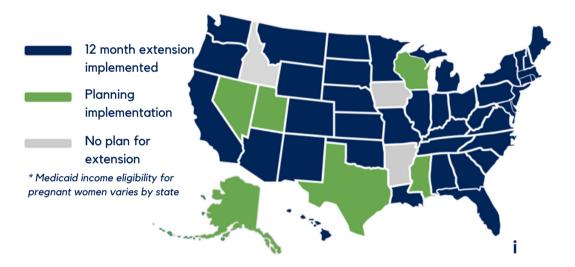
Enact 12 Month Postpartum Medicaid Coverage

Medicaid is a critical source of health insurance coverage for moms and babies in Iowa, covering nearly **1 out of every 2 births** in the state. But many moms in Iowa lose their Medicaid coverage 60 days after giving birth—one of the shortest postpartum coverage periods in the country.

lowa is one of only three states that have not taken action to provide postpartum Medicaid coverage beyond 60 days. i

As the primary payor of births in Iowa, Medicaid can play a critical role in improving the health of moms and babies. Enacting 12 month postpartum Medicaid coverage is the simplest and most targeted way to ensure that moms can get the care they need to keep them and their baby healthy.



12 months of postpartum Medicaid improves health outcomes for mom and baby while reducing costs. Postpartum coverage:



Increases access to health care early



Improves outcomes by helping receive ongoing medical & mental health care



Reduces cost by providing medical interventions

Healthy babies need healthy moms. The stakes are high as the care a woman receives is critical to her own health, as well as the health of her newborn. Maternal health directly influences children's health.

12 months of postpartum care is rooted in clinical evidence. Some of the most dangerous pregnancy-related complications (e.g., eclampsia, blood clots, cardiomyopathy, strokes); may not surface until months after delivery. Without access to health coverage, these conditions can go undetected and untreated, sometimes turning deadly.

Healthy women make for healthy economies. Policymakers should consider the financial toll to individuals, families and communities. Maternal morbidity costs billions of dollars every year. We can avoid these costs if people remain covered under Medicaid and have their conditions addressed before they become severe. iv

The estimated total maternal morbidity costs for all U.S. births in 2019 is \$32.3 billion.

Iowa cannot afford to ignore the impact of maternal mortality and morbidity and must take decisive action to prevent maternal deaths. **Enact 12 month postpartum Medicaid coverage to support the health of Iowa moms and babies, and Iowa's economy.**

Our Supporters



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