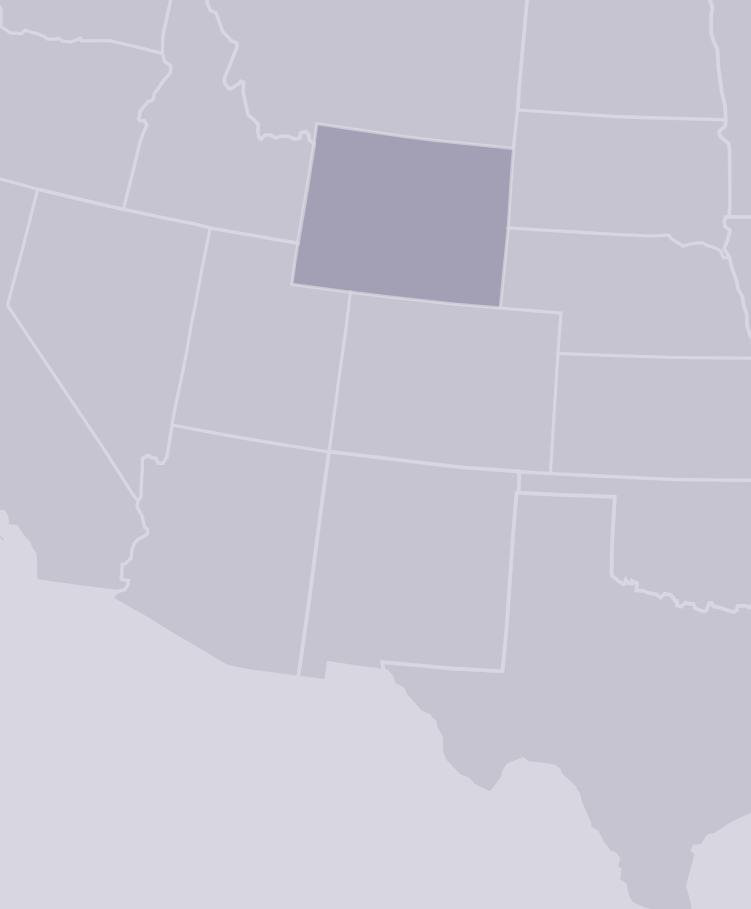




The Truth about Medicaid and Wyoming's Budget



A federal COVID-19 relief package will cover the entire cost of updating Wyoming's outdated Medicaid program.

Congress is preparing to pass a COVID-19 relief package this month that includes additional funding for states that update their Medicaid programs. Wyoming would become eligible to receive enough federal funds to extend Medicaid coverage to low-income residents without any additional spending by the state.

Details: A \$120 million opportunity

The funding would come in the form of an increase to the rate the federal government chips in for Medicaid expenditures.

States that update their Medicaid programs pay a 90-10 cost split with the federal government. For Wyoming, our state portion would be about \$10 million a year.

The estimated \$120 million in relief funding would come to Wyoming over the course of two years. It covers Wyoming's share of updating our Medicaid program for more than a decade.*

*Source: "Health Provisions in House Relief Bill Would Improve Access to Health Coverage During COVID Crisis," Center for Budget and Policy Priorities; Feb. 19, 2021

No additional spending by the state

\$120 million in relief funding

25,000 residents gain coverage

Outdated vs. updated

The 38 states that have updated their Medicaid programs to cover low-income residents receive a 90-10 cost split from the federal government.

Wyoming lags behind. As a result, we pay more, and fewer people have health insurance.

» Outdated

50-50: The cost split Wyoming pays for Medicaid with the federal government

Who we cover now: People with disabilities and other severe obstacles to job-based insurance

» Updated

90-10: The cost split states pay that have updated their Medicaid programs. In addition, Wyoming would receive \$120 million in relief funding.

Who we'd cover: Adults who earn less than 138 percent of the federal poverty level—for instance, a single parent who works full-time for \$12 an hour.



Vote for a Healthy Wyoming

The Wyoming Department of Health estimates that 25,000 residents would gain insurance coverage if we update our Medicaid program. Not only would this strengthen our state's budget with new funding, but it would also:

- » **drive down uncompensated care costs at our hospitals and rural clinics**
 - » **create healthcare jobs**
- » **decrease insurance premiums in the state, and**
 - » **help create a healthier Wyoming**