

Health Care Finance and Administration	Section: Non-Financial Eligibility Requirements
Policy Manual Number: 005.030	Chapter: Unborn Status

UNBORN STATUS

Legal Authority: 42 CFR 435.603; 42 CFR 435.956

1. Policy Statement

An unborn child is included in the household size of a pregnant woman when determining financial eligibility for TennCare Medicaid and CoverKids. An unborn child is not included in the household size when determining eligibility of family members of a pregnant woman, including the pregnant woman's spouse and other children in the household. When there is more than one fetus, each unborn child will be counted when determining the household size for the mother.

Unborn children are not eligible to receive TennCare Medicaid benefits. Once a child is born, he or she is eligible for benefits in the Deemed Newborn category up to age 1 from the date of birth as long as the mother was eligible for and receiving TennCare Medicaid at the time of the child's birth.

2. Verification

The State accepts self-attestation of pregnancy at application or as a reported change, unless the State has information that is not reasonably compatible with such attestation. If the state has information that is not reasonably compatible with an attested pregnancy, the state will contact the individual and may request written medical verification of the pregnancy.

Acceptable written medical verification of pregnancy has the following characteristics:

- Prepared and signed by medical personnel including but not limited to a physician, nurse, health clinic, or other medical paraprofessional; and
- The written verification bears a current date and includes at least an estimated date of delivery, if not a date of conception.
- If a woman attests that she is pregnant with multiple children, and the state has reason to believe that the woman has provided false information, then acceptable written medical verification of the pregnancy must also include confirmation of the number of fetuses.