

## Discontinuation of the Alberta Health Benefit for Ukrainian Evacuees program

The Alberta Health Benefit for Ukrainian Evacuees program was established in 2022 to provide Ukrainian evacuees with supplementary health benefits, such as prescription drugs, dental care, optical care and other benefits, without premiums or co-payments. This program will expire on **March 31, 2025**.

This benefact provides guidance to pharmacy providers regarding questions that Ukrainian evacuees may raise about the expiry of the Alberta Health Benefit for Ukrainian Evacuees program and options for health benefits coverage going forward.

### Health benefit plan options for Ukrainian evacuees who are under 65 years of age

Ukrainian evacuees without a health benefit plan may want to consider options such as an employer-sponsored plan or other private coverage. Alberta's government also has drug and health benefit programs available to ensure all Albertans have access to economical health benefits.

- Low-income Albertans who are under 65 years of age may qualify for one of Alberta's government-sponsored low income health benefit plans, such as the **Alberta Adult Health Benefit**, **Alberta Child Health Benefit**, **Income Support** and **the Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped** (AISH) programs. However, all family members must be permanent residents of Canada or Canadian citizens to qualify for these programs.
- The government-sponsored **Non-Group Coverage** plan is an option for Albertans who are under 65 years of age and do not qualify for low-income programs.
  - There is normally a wait period for Non-Group Coverage. For most applicants, coverage starts on the first day of the fourth month after their application is received.
  - Ukrainian evacuees previously covered by the Alberta Health Benefit for Ukrainian Evacuees program who apply for Non-Group Coverage by **April 30, 2025**, can transition directly from the Alberta Health Benefit without a wait period. Their coverage will start on **April 1, 2025**.

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### Health benefit plan options for Ukrainian evacuees who are 65 years of age or older

- Ukrainian evacuees who are 65 years of age or older and enrolled in the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan by **March 31, 2025**, will be automatically enrolled into the Coverage for Seniors program on **April 1, 2025**, by Alberta Health.

For questions regarding enrollment in the Non-Group Plan and the Coverage for Seniors plan, Ukrainian evacuees can contact an Alberta Health representative at 780-427-1432 (if in Edmonton) or toll-free at 310-0000, then 780-427-1432 (if in other parts of Alberta).

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For assistance with benefit or claim inquiries, please contact an Alberta Blue Cross Pharmacy Services Provider Relations contact centre representative at

**780-498-8370** (Edmonton and area)

**403-294-4041** (Calgary and area)

**1-800-361-9632** (toll free)

**FAX 780-498-8406** (Edmonton and area)

**FAX 1-877-305-9911** (toll free)

Alberta Blue Cross offers online access to current Pharmacy Benefacts and supplemental claiming information to assist with the submission of your direct-bill drug claims.

Visit [ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php](https://ab.bluecross.ca/providers/pharmacy-home.php)

