



Indiana State Department of Health

Refugee Medical Assistance: Frequently Asked Questions

**Health Navigators Meeting
St. Joseph Community Health
February 27, 2017**

What is RMA?

The Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA) is a federally funded program that provides refugees with eight months of health insurance. RMA allows refugees to receive their initial health screening within 30 days of arrival and any subsequent referrals to primary or specialty care within the eight-month span.

How is RMA administered in Indiana?

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), the governing state agency for the refugee program. The MOU allows ISDH to subcontract with the screening clinics in Allen, Marion and Vanderburgh counties.

How do refugees get RMA?

Upon arrival, with the assistance of the resettlement agency, refugees apply for Medicaid. If a refugee is not eligible for Medicaid, he or she can receive RMA.

How do other refugee categories get RMA?

In addition to primary refugees, the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) definition of refugee encompasses:

- Asylees
- Parolees
- Secondary Refugees
- Cuban and Haitian Entrants
- Special Immigrant Visa Holders
- Victims of Human Trafficking

An individual who fits into any of these categories is eligible for RMA. As with primary refugees, these individuals will apply for Medicaid first before being deemed eligible for RMA.

What services are covered by RMA?

RMA covers services similar to those covered by Medicaid. The screening clinics have access to the ISDH fee schedule, which includes current procedural terminology (CPT) billing codes and fees for all services provided to refugees. The CPT codes are based on Medicaid rates. Below is a list of services refugees receive in the initial health screening that are covered by Medicaid and/or RMA:

- Immunization for adults (both vaccine and administration cost)
- Blood draws
- Screening tests for CBC, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV, TB, etc.
- History and physical exams
- Mental health screening
- Newborn Screening (NBS), exclusively funded by RMA
- Transportation:
 - 0-5 miles→\$6 one way.
 - 6-10 miles→\$10 one way.
 - 11 miles or more→\$15 one way.
- Interpretation: All refugees benefit from interpretation services, which are funded by RMA regardless of Medicaid coverage.
- Health advocacy: All refugees get this service as well. This service is not covered by Medicaid.
- Data entry in the refugee health database: All refugees receive this service; not covered by Medicaid.

RMA sub-grantees

ISDH has contracts with the screening clinics: Fort Wayne-Allen County Health Department, Marion County Public Health Department, and Echo Community Health Center in Evansville. The screening clinics are reimbursed based on services provided to refugees.