

HOW TO WAIVE WITH MEDI-CAL

For students who DO NOT live in Merced, Madera, Mariposa, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, or Fresno Counties, you will need to contact your case worker in your home county to let them know you will temporarily be attending the University of California, Merced (County Code 24).

Get started on this process as soon as possible. In order to meet waiver criteria, Medi-Cal coverage must be active in Merced County before the waiver period ends and you have completed your waiver.

Follow these steps:

1. Change your address to Merced County. If you do not have your dorm or new address yet, you can use the school address:

101 Terrace Center, 5400 North Lake Road, Merced, CA 95343

Let your case worker know this is a temporary change and you will be visiting home on weekends and holidays. This will take you out of your current plan and put you in the Merced County health plan, Central California Alliance. Making this change to Merced County will allow you to seek all services in Merced County and not just emergency services. Contact Merced County Human Services Agency after about 10 days to make sure your change has been made.

2. Get Proof of Eligibility by calling or going to the Human Services Agency in Merced. You can go to the Medi-Cal Office at the address listed below and pick up a MEDS printout since you do not have an insurance card yet. You can also call to get a printout: 800-700-3874.

Human Services Agency of Merced County
2115 Wardrobe Avenue, Merced, CA 95341
209-385-3000

All insurance plans must provide unrestricted access to an in-network primary care provider (PCP), in-network hospital, and full, non-emergency medical and behavioral health care within 55 miles of the UC Merced campus while you are attending school. This is the policy of the University to meet the waiver criteria.

If you are having difficulty with your caseworker, you can contact the California State Ombudsman for assistance.

- Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm PST; holidays excluded
- By Phone: 888-452-8609
- By Email: MMCDOmbudsmanOffice@dhcs.ca.gov
- [California State Ombudsman website](#)