



For additional information on the grading methodology, please visit the State of the States Report: rareaction.org/stateofthestates

Medicaid Eligibility

Overall Grade: A

Eligibility for childless adults	A
Eligibility for parent of a dependent child	A*
Eligibility for pregnant women	B
Medicaid and/or Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) eligibility for children	B

Medicaid Section 1115 Waivers

Overall Grade: Pass

Kentucky sought a section 1115 waiver to, among other things, implement a work requirement, remove retroactive eligibility and nonemergency medical transportation, and charge premiums and copays. This waiver was has since been rescinded by Governor Beshear.

Out-of-Pocket Costs

Overall Grade: F

Prescription drug cost sharing protections	F
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Step Therapy

Overall Grade: C

Based on clinical practice	A
Timeline	C
Exception process	B
Categories of exceptions	C
Subsequent guidance from state	F

Medical Nutrition

Overall Grade: B

Coverage requirements for commercial health plans	B
Covered disorders requirements for commercial health plans	C
Coverage requirements for state-run programs	A
Covered disorders requirements for state-run programs	C

Newborn Screening

Overall Grade: B

Screening for RUSP core conditions	A
Adding RUSP core conditions to the state panel	A
Funding for program	A
Use of dried blood spots (DBS)	F
Follow-up	C
Quality of program	C
Advisory committee	B

Rare Disease Advisory Councils

Kentucky enacted legislation to create a rare disease advisory council (RDAC) in 2019. Kentucky’s RDAC has not had an opportunity to meet since the legislation was signed into law, but the Governor has appointed a chair of the council.

Individual Insurance Market Protections

Pre-existing conditions protections: Only current federal protections apply in Kentucky.

Short-term, limited-duration and association health plans: Kentucky does not place any stricter limitations than current federal standards on short-term, limited-duration health plans. Kentucky requires that an association form for a purpose other than offering insurance.

Reinsurance: Kentucky has not yet sought a section 1332 waiver to establish a reinsurance program.

*Although stated eligibility level for parents of dependent children would not warrant an “A,” state has expanded Medicaid to enable individuals previously ineligible for Medicaid to become Medicaid eligible up to 138% eligibility FPL and, therefore, earns an “A.”