



Medicaid enrollment has significantly increased over the last decade, from 1.1 million individuals in 2014 to over 1.6 million in 2024. This increase has resulted in greater access to quality health care for our most vulnerable populations. But Medicaid payment cuts threaten the viability of the physician practices that provide this care, causing some physicians to no longer be able to care for those who rely on Medicaid services. Maryland must continue to address socioeconomic inequities and health disparities by ensuring proper payment rates to medical practices, so physicians are able to continue to provide care to individuals with Medicaid coverage.

Maryland must continue to protect its investment in Medicaid, and MedChi is grateful that Governor Moore’s proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 budget maintains Medicaid E&M rates at the same level as Maryland’s FY 2025 budget. We must now urge the General Assembly to preserve the Medicaid E&M rates in Governor Moore’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 budget and not reduce rates during its FY 2026 budget deliberations.

Issue	MedChi Advocacy
Increasing cost drivers, including workforce shortages and administrative burdens, are putting physician practices at risk. These cost drivers and the time it takes to provide high-quality healthcare to patients affect whether a physician can participate in certain programs, like Medicaid.	Ensuring sufficient payment for E&M codes will support the ongoing financial viability of physician practices and enable them to continue to contract with Medicaid to ensure access to health care services for Maryland’s most disadvantaged patients.
Medicaid serves more than 1.6 million Marylanders, or about a quarter of Maryland residents. Half of those are children. The program provides access to care for low-income individuals and families.	Fewer Medicaid physicians means less access to quality care for Maryland’s most disadvantaged residents. MedChi advocates for Maryland to keep Moore’s FY 2026 budget on Medicaid E&M payment rates so that physicians are able to continue to participate in Medicaid.

Call or e-mail [your legislators](#) and ask them to keep Governor Moore’s Medicaid E&M rates in the FY 2026 budget.