

# NC Medicaid Celebrates 50 Years of Improving Health for North Carolina

This year marks the 50th anniversary of North Carolina's Medicaid program, which provides health coverage for low-income adults, children, pregnant women, seniors and people with disabilities throughout the state. The NC Department of Health and Human Services will celebrate the milestone throughout the year with #NCMedicaidAt50 and by collecting stories on the impact of Medicaid in North Carolina.

Launched in 1970, Medicaid provides health coverage to people who otherwise would likely be unable to afford it. It is funded by both the federal government and the state. Today, Medicaid and NC Health Choice support the health and well-being of 2.2 million North Carolinians and covers more than 65,000 births in the state. In 2019, close to a third of North Carolina Medicaid funding covered care for children, nearly half for people with disabilities and about 14% for people 65 and older.

Years of research show that Medicaid improves health, has long-term benefits for children and improves financial security. Medicaid beneficiaries have better access to care than those without insurance and therefore are more likely to access preventive care. Medicaid provides access to health care for low-income pregnant women and children, which has played a significant role in reducing the infant and child mortality rate over the last 50 years. In addition, research shows that Medicaid benefits state and local economic activity, creating jobs and income in North Carolina.

In January 2020, DHHS shared that Medicaid was under budget for the sixth consecutive year. The NC Medicaid 2019 annual report also noted that the program increased rates for primary care providers for the first time in several years. Rates also were increased for personal care services, which raised pay for caregivers and for dental services, increasing the services provided. And although managed care implementation was suspended, DHHS received national recognition, including articles in the New York Times and Politico, for its innovative work to integrate physical and behavioral health, invest in primary care, promote value-based payment and address non-medical drivers of health like housing stability and food security.

"Medicaid has helped millions of North Carolinians live healthier lives," said DHHS Secretary Mandy Cohen, M.D. "It is a transformative program with impacts that go far beyond health. It allows people with disabilities to work, makes it possible for more children to do well in school and lifts people out of poverty. Let's leverage these successes to help more hardworking North Carolinians access affordable health care by expanding Medicaid."

North Carolina is one of a small number of states that has not expanded Medicaid. Doing so would allow more than 500,000 North Carolinians to access affordable health coverage. States that have expanded Medicaid are experiencing better health outcomes, lower health insurance premiums for those with private insurance, fewer opioid overdoses and increased financial stability for rural hospitals. Under expansion, the federal government would pay 90% of the cost, and hospitals and health plans would pay the remaining 10% in North Carolina. There would be no cost to individual state taxpayers.

DHHS would like to hear from people whose lives and communities have been impacted by North Carolina Medicaid. Stories can be sent to [Medicaid.Communications@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Medicaid.Communications@dhhs.nc.gov).

## North Carolina Department of Justice's 2019 Annual Report

On Thursday, January 16 NC Attorney General Josh Stein shared the top 10 consumer complaints that his office received in 2019. He also released the North Carolina Department of Justice's 2019 annual report, which delves into the department's work to protect people from fraud, protect taxpayers, and defend the state of North Carolina over the past year.

"Bad actors are always trying to use fear and confusion to take advantage of people," said Attorney General Josh Stein. "Their actions are unconscionable and often illegal. My office will continue to investigate consumer complaints and do everything in our power to hold scammers accountable and make North Carolinians whole again."

The 2019 annual report discuss NCDOJ's work to prevent crime, handle criminal appeals and certain criminal cases, support victims and survivors, defend state agencies, protect the environment, analyze evidence and assist in law enforcement investigations, and train and certify law enforcement officers.

"I'm incredibly proud of my colleagues and their work to serve North Carolinians," said Attorney General Josh Stein. "Over the past year, they have continued to demonstrate an unparalleled commitment to integrity and excellence, and we are safer for their public service to protect and defend North Carolina, its people, and their rights."


Last year, people in North Carolina filed 14,462 consumer complaints. In the course of mediating those complaints, NCDOJ secured consumer refunds of nearly \$580,000, of which more than \$293,000 went to refund elder fraud victims.

### The top 10 consumer complaints of 2019 are:

- 1) Telemarketing/Do Not Call:** Telemarketing complaints are related to robocalls, spoofed calls, and calls that violate the Do Not Call Registry. NCDOJ received 1,545 telemarketing complaints. In August, Attorney General Stein unveiled the Anti-Robocall Principles, an agreement between 51 attorneys general and 12 phone companies to fight robocalls through prevention and enforcement.
- 2) Lenders/Credit:** Lender and credit complaints involve issues with mortgage lenders, creditors, debt adjusters, credit reporting and recovery, and collection agencies. NCDOJ received 1,477 lender and creditor complaints.
- 3) Motor Vehicles:** Motor vehicle complaints involve issues related to car rentals, sales or purchases of new and used cars, and car repair issues. NCDOJ received 1,381 motor vehicle complaints.
- 4) Elder Fraud:** Elder fraud scams cover a range of scams that target older adults, including imposter and sweetheart scams. NCDOJ received 1,249 elder fraud complaints. The Department helped to secure more than \$293,000 in refunds to victims of elder fraud.
- 5) Home Repair:** Home repair scams involve home improvement, repair, construction, and care. NCDOJ received 1,215 home repair complaints.
- 6) Health Care:** Health care complaints include health services and products, and hospital, doctor and healthcare-provider services. NCDOJ received 783 health care complaints.
- 7) Cable TV/Satellite:** Cable TV and satellite complaints are related to cable TV and satellite service providers with a state-issued franchise. NCDOJ received 780 cable TV and satellite complaints.
- 8) Landlord-Tenant:** Landlord-tenant complaints involve disputes over the rights and responsibilities of landlords and tenants. NCDOJ received 680 landlord-tenant complaints.
- 9) Telecommunications:** Telecommunications complaints involve issues with cellular providers and other telephone companies. NCDOJ received 675 telecommunications complaints.
- 10) Home Furnishings & Appliances:** Home furnishings and appliance complaints include issues with furniture companies and appliance repair. NCDOJ received 421 home furnishings and appliance complaints.

North Carolina consumers can visit [ncdoj.gov](http://ncdoj.gov) to learn more about ways to protect themselves from scams and fraud. People can also request a presentation about public safety issues, scams and fraud, and ways to prevent crime and protect yourself and your information. If you believe you or someone you know has been the victim of a scam, file a complaint with our Consumer Protection Division at [ncdoj.gov/complaint](http://ncdoj.gov/complaint) or by calling 1-877-5-NO-SCAM.

**Thank you for reading The Express!**



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## Notice of Primary Election for Anson County, North Carolina

The General Election will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. The polls will be open for voting on Election Day from 6:30am to 7:30pm.

### Anson County Voters will select the following:

County Commissioner Contest will only appear in District 1, and 3  
PARTISAN OFFICES THAT DID NOT HAVE CHALLENGERS WILL GO STRAIGHT TO NOVEMBER BALLOT

Candidate Name	Candidate Name
<b>PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE - CST</b> Don Blankenship Charles Kraut No Preference	<b>PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE - LIB</b> James Orlando Ogle Kenneth Blevins Steve Richey Sourava Faas Kim Ruff Erik Gerhardt
<b>PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE - DEM</b> Deval Patrick Bernie Sanders Tom Steyer Elizabeth Warren Marianne Williamson Andrew Yang Michael Bennet Joseph R. Biden Michael R. Bloomberg Cory Booker Pete Buttigieg Julian Castro John K. Delaney Tulsi Gabbard Amy Klobuchar No Preference	<b>PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE - REP</b> Donald J. Trump Joe Walsh Bill Weld
<b>PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE - GRE</b> Howie Hawkins No Preference	<b>US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT 09 - DEM</b> Harry Southerland Cynthia L. Wallace Marcus W. Williams Clayton W. Brooks III
<b>US SENATE - DEM</b> Erica D. Smith Steve Swenson Cal Cunningham Trevor M. Fuller Atul Goel	<b>NC LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR - DEM</b> Allen Thomas Bill Toole Terry Van Duyen Chaz Beasley Yvonne Lewis Holley Ron Newton
<b>US SENATE - REP</b> Thom Tillis Paul Wright Larry Holmquist Sharon Y. Hudson	<b>NC LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR - REP</b> John L. Ritter Mark Robinson Scott Stone Andy Wells Buddy Bengel Deborah Cochran Renee Ellmers Greg Gebhardt Mark Johnson
<b>NC AUDITOR - DEM</b> Luis A. Toledo Beth A. Wood	<b>NC COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE - DEM</b> Walter Smith Jenna Waxworth Donovan Alexander Watson
<b>NC AUDITOR - REP</b> Anthony Wayne (Tony) Street Tim Hoegemeyer	<b>NC COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE - REP</b> Ronald Pierce Mike Causey
<b>NC ATTORNEY GENERAL - REP</b> Jim O'Neil Sam Hayes Christine Mumma	<b>NC COMMISSIONER OF LABOR - REP</b> Chuck Stanley Josh Dobson Pearl Burris Floyd
<b>NC GOVERNOR - REP</b> Dan Forest Holly Grange	<b>NC SECRETARY OF STATE - REP</b> E. C. Sykes Chad Brown Michael LaPaglia
<b>ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 01</b> Bobby Sikkes Kayesha Nivens	<b>NC SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION - DEM</b> Keith A. Sutton James Barrett Constance (Lav) Johnson Michael Maher Jen Mangrum
<b>ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DISTRICT 03</b> Ross Streater Robert Mims	<b>NC SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION - REP</b> Catherine Truitt Craig Horn
	<b>NC TREASURER - DEM</b> Dimple Ajmera Ronnie Chatterji Matt Leatherman

### ANSON COUNTY POLLING PLACES:

ANSONVILLE FIRE-RESCUE  
9145 US HWY 52 N, ANSONVILLE  
BURNSVILLE FIRE-RESCUE 33 RESCUE RD, POLKTON  
GULLEDGE FIRE DEPT 34 CHEWNING RD, WADESBORO  
LILESVILLE FIRE DEPT. 202 W WALL ST, LILESVILLE  
MORVEN-MCFARLAN FIRE DEPT  
242 E MAIN ST, MORVEN  
PEACHLAND FIRE DEPT35 E PASSAIC ST, PEACHLAND  
POLKTON FIRE DEPT 61 W POLK ST, POLKTON  
WADESBORO SPC LOCKHART TAYLOR  
514 N WASHINGTON ST, WADESBORO  
WHITE STORE-COMMUNITY BLDG 5672 UNION CHURCH RD, PEACHLAND

**ALL ANSON COUNTY VOTERS CAN VOTE EARLY AT THE BOARD OF ELECTION OFFICE AT 402 MORVEN ROAD - WADESBORO, NC FROM FEBRUARY 13 - FEBRUARY 29**

**\*\*IF YOU DO NOT VOTE AT THE EARLY VOTING SITE - YOU WILL NEED TO GO TO YOUR REGULAR POLLING PRECINCT ON TUESDAY MARCH 3, 2020 FROM 6:30 AM - 7:30 PM**

**THERE WILL NOT BE VOTING HELD AT THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS ON ELECTION DAY TUESDAY MARCH 3, 2020**

**Buffer Zone Notice:** All Election Day polling places and the One-stop voting location will have signs posted to indicate a 50 foot buffer zone.

where no electioneering will be allowed per NC GS 163-166.4(a)

**\*CAMPAIGNING OR DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTION MATERIAL IS ONLY ALLOWED OUTSIDE THE BUFFER ZONE**

Anson County residents may register to vote by mail or in person at the Board of Elections Office. **The deadline to register to vote on Election Day is FRIDAY FEBRUARY 7 at 5:00 pm.** If you are registered to vote in Anson County (and your name or address has not changed) you **DO NOT** need to register again to vote in this election. **Voters who are not registered in the county by that deadline may register and vote during one stop early voting only, and will be required to provide documentation of their identity and residence:** current and valid photo identification; or A copy of one of the following documents that show the name and address of the voter: a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document

**Absentee by Mail voting** is available upon request from the Voter, a near relative or legal guardian. New State Law requires that all requests must be made on the official Absentee Ballot Request Form, which is available online. Application may be made in person at the Anson County Board of Elections Office, or in writing to the Anson County Board of Elections at PO Box 768, Wadesboro, NC 28170.

**The deadline to apply for an Absentee by Mail ballot is 5:00pm, FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup> 2018§ 163-230.2.**

**To apply or Request an Absentee by Mail Ballot, a voter or near relative must complete the State Issued Absentee Request Form. Absentee By Mail Request CAN ONLY BE TURNED in by the VOTER or a NEAR RELATIVE.** Faxed or emailed requests are NO LONGER VALID. **Near Relatives as defined by statute: spouse, brother, sister, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, Daughter-in-law, son-in-law, stepparent, or stepchild**

**One-stop EARLY VOTING THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13<sup>TH</sup> SATURDAY FEBRUARY 29** AT THE ANSON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS OFFICE LOCATED AT 402 MORVEN ROAD, WADESBORO NC. The hours of operation will be Monday through Friday 8:00 AM - 7:30 PM. and on Saturdays FEBRUARY 15, 22, AND FEBRUARY 29, 2020 FROM 8:00 AM-3:00PM, AND Saturday FEBRUARY 29<sup>TH</sup> FROM 8:00 am - 1:00 pm. **There is no longer straight party voting allowed in NC.**

**Absentee meetings:** The Anson County Board of Elections will meet to approve applications for absentee ballots for the November General Election at the Board of Elections office, 402 Morven Road Wadesboro, NC. ; Pursuant to G.S. 163.230.1(c1). Other business may be transacted by the board at this time: **TUESDAY FEB. 11 5:00 PM, TUESDAY FEB, 18 AT 5:00 PM, AND TUESDAY FEB. 25 AT 5:00 PM.** Absentee by Mail ballots will be counted on **MAY 3<sup>RD</sup> AT 2:00 PM.** **Results for Absentee Mail and One-Stop Early voting will be reported after polls close at 7:30pm.** Overseas (UOCAVA) Ballots must be returned by the close of polls on election day (7:30 PM), or the covered voter shall submit the ballot for mailing, electronic transmission, or other authorized means of delivery not later than 12:01 A.M., at the place where the voter completes the ballot, on the date of the election and the County Board receives the ballot the last day Before the County Canvass.(FRIDAY MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2020)

**Canvass Day meeting** will be held in the Board of Elections Office on **FRIDAY MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 AT 11:00 AM.**

For More information contact: Elections Director Steve Adams or Board Chair: James Paxton Elections Office: 704-994-3223

**Voters will not be required to show Photo ID for March 3, 2020, Primary Election. \*Some exceptions\***

**Unaffiliated voters may choose between the Democrat, Republican or Libertarian Ballot**