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# **Michigan Self-Verification Guide: Detecting Possible Misuse of Benefits and Services in Your Name (Parents & Caregivers)**

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# **Michigan Self-Verification Guide**

## **Detecting Possible Misuse of Benefits and Services in Your Name (Parents, Caregivers, and Guardians)**

**Prepared by:** Tocsin Data

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*Purpose: This document provides a Michigan-specific, legally safe pathway for parents, caregivers, and guardians to verify whether public benefits or services were billed, paid, or claimed using their own identity or that of a dependent, and outlines official steps to take when discrepancies are identified.*

## Introduction

Social media and news reporting sometimes describe situations where services appear to have been billed, reimbursed, or publicly funded in a person's name—or a child's name—without the individual's knowledge or consent. In Michigan, there is **no centralized public database** that allows a name-based search across all benefit programs.

Records are maintained by administering agencies under state and federal confidentiality laws. The appropriate approach is **self-verification**: reviewing official records you are legally entitled to access and escalating concerns through formal reporting channels when warranted.

## **Section 1 – Licensed Child Care Verification (Michigan LARA)**

Michigan licenses and regulates child care providers through the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), Child Care Licensing Bureau.

### **1.1 Official provider search (public)**

Michigan Child Care Licensing Search:

<https://www.michigan.gov/lara/bureau-list/cclb> [1]

### **1.2 Online licensing database (direct search)**

Michigan LARA — Child Care Licensing System:

<https://www.michigan.gov/lara/iab/childcare> [2]

## **Section 2 – Child Development and Care (CDC) Subsidy Program (Michigan DHHS)**

Michigan administers child care subsidies through the Child Development and Care (CDC) program, overseen by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). Payments may be made to providers on behalf of eligible families.

### **2.1 Official CDC program information (families)**

Michigan MDHHS — Child Development and Care:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/child-development-care> [3]

### **2.2 Apply / manage benefits (MI Bridges)**

MI Bridges (apply, manage benefits, notices):

<https://newmibridges.michigan.gov> [4]

### **2.3 What parents/guardians should review**

- Eligibility and authorization notices
- Approved provider name and service dates
- Attendance versus authorized care

## **Section 3 – Health Coverage Claims (Michigan Medicaid)**

Health services billed under Michigan Medicaid generate formal claims records through managed care plans and MDHHS systems. These records are the primary method for verifying whether services were billed in your or your child's name.

### **3.1 Michigan Medicaid member resources**

Michigan Medicaid — Beneficiary information:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/medicaid> [5]

### **3.2 Reporting Medicaid fraud (Michigan)**

Michigan Attorney General — Medicaid Fraud Division:

<https://www.michigan.gov/ag/initiatives/medicaid-fraud> [6]

## **Section 4 – Public Records Requests (Michigan FOIA)**

Michigan public records access is governed by the Michigan Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Records involving minors or medical services may be exempt; however, parents and guardians may request records they are legally entitled to receive and request an agency explanation for any exemptions applied.

### **4.1 Michigan FOIA overview (Attorney General)**

Michigan Attorney General — FOIA overview:

<https://www.michigan.gov/ag/initiatives/foia> [7]

### **4.2 MDHHS FOIA requests**

Michigan DHHS — FOIA Requests:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/inside-mdhhs/foia> [8]

## **Section 5 – Reporting Suspected Fraud (Michigan Official Channels)**

Michigan provides official reporting pathways for suspected fraud, waste, or abuse involving public assistance programs.

### **5.1 Michigan Attorney General — Report Fraud**

Michigan Attorney General — Report Fraud:

<https://www.michigan.gov/ag/complaints> [9]

### **5.2 MDHHS Office of Inspector General**

MDHHS OIG — Fraud Reporting:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/inside-mdhhs/oig> [10]

## Appendix A – Official Michigan Resources

1. Michigan LARA Child Care Licensing — <https://www.michigan.gov/lara/bureau-list/cclb>
2. Michigan LARA Child Care Search — <https://www.michigan.gov/lara/iab/childcare>
3. Michigan MDHHS Child Development and Care —  
<https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/child-development-care>
4. MI Bridges — <https://newmibranches.michigan.gov>
5. Michigan Medicaid — <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/assistance-programs/medicaid>
6. Michigan AG — Medicaid Fraud Division — <https://www.michigan.gov/ag/initiatives/medicaid-fraud>
7. Michigan AG — FOIA — <https://www.michigan.gov/ag/initiatives/foia>
8. MDHHS FOIA Requests — <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/inside-mdhhs/foia>
9. Michigan AG — Report Fraud — <https://www.michigan.gov/ag/complaints>
10. MDHHS Office of Inspector General — <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/inside-mdhhs/oig>

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