



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

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Maine Self-Verification Guide

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

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Purpose: This document provides a Maine-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 reports 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 Maine, there is **no centralized public database** that allows a name-based search across all benefit programs.

Instead, records are maintained separately by administering agencies under state and federal confidentiality laws. The correct 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 (Maine DHHS)

Maine licenses and monitors child care providers through the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of Child and Family Services.

1.1 Official provider search (public)

Maine Child Care Licensing Provider Search:

<https://apps.web.maine.gov/dhhs/childcare/providersearch/> [1]

1.2 Child care licensing program overview

Maine DHHS — Child Care Licensing:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/ec/child-care-licensing> [2]

Section 2 – Child Care Subsidy (CCAP) and Payments (Maine DHHS)

Maine administers the Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP), funded under the federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). Payments may be issued to providers on behalf of eligible families.

2.1 Official CCSP information for families

Maine DHHS — Child Care Subsidy Program:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/ec/child-care-subsidy-program> [3]

2.2 What parents/guardians should review

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

Section 3 – Health Coverage Claims (MaineCare / Medicaid)

Health services billed under MaineCare (Maine's Medicaid program) generate formal claims records. These records are the primary method for verifying whether services were billed in your or your child's name.

3.1 MaineCare member services

MaineCare Member Services:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/member-services> [4]

3.2 Reporting MaineCare fraud

Maine DHHS — Report Fraud:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/provider-services/fraud> [5]

Section 4 – Public Records Requests (Maine Freedom of Access Act)

Maine's public records access is governed by the Freedom of Access Act (FOAA). Records involving minors or health information may be exempt; however, parents and guardians may request records they are legally entitled to receive.

4.1 Maine FOAA overview

Maine Attorney General — FOAA guidance:

<https://www.maine.gov/ag/foaa/> [6]

4.2 Agency-specific request example (DHHS)

Maine DHHS — FOAA requests:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/foaa> [7]

Section 5 – Reporting Suspected Fraud (Maine)

Maine provides official channels for reporting suspected fraud related to public assistance programs.

5.1 DHHS Office of Inspector General

Maine DHHS OIG Fraud Reporting:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/office-inspector-general> [8]

Appendix A – Official Maine Resources

1. Maine Child Care Provider Search — <https://apps.web.maine.gov/dhhs/childcare/providersearch/>
2. Maine Child Care Licensing — <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/ec/child-care-licensing>
3. Maine Child Care Subsidy Program —
<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/ec/child-care-subsidy-program>
4. MaineCare Member Services — <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/member-services>
5. Maine DHHS Fraud Reporting — <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/oms/provider-services/fraud>
6. Maine FOAA (Attorney General) — <https://www.maine.gov/ag/foaa/>
7. Maine DHHS FOAA Requests — <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/about/foaa>
8. Maine DHHS Office of Inspector General — <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/office-inspector-general>

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