

# California Tobacco Cessation Coverage

## Download State Overview PDF

### Icon Legend:

✓ = Covered

▼ = Coverage Varies

✗ = Not Covered

## Medicaid Coverage

Medi-Cal covers:

✓ Nicotine Gum

✓ Nicotine Patch

✓ Nicotine Nasal Spray

✓ Nicotine Lozenge

✓ Nicotine Inhaler

✓ Varenicline (Chantix)

✓ Bupropion (Zyban)

✓ Group Counseling

✓ Individual Counseling

✓ Quitline

All seven pharmacotherapy treatments are covered. Individual and Group counseling are covered. Managed care plans have to cover at least 90 days. MCOs have to cover at least 2 attempts per year. MCOs must cover 1 medication without PA, but it varies on which one it is. Please contact your plan if interested, or visit <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/individuals/Pages/MMCDHealthPlanDir.aspx>

For more information, please call the Medi-Cal office at 800-952-5294 or visit their website at <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/Pages/default.aspx>

Note: the Affordable Care Act requires all Medicaid programs cover all tobacco cessation medications beginning January 1, 2014. If a medication is marked here as not being covered, there is not yet evidence that Medicaid has complied with this requirement. Patients should call their Medicaid program and ask how to receive these medications.

## Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage

All plans in the Health Insurance Marketplace are required to cover tobacco cessation treatment. Specific coverage varies by plan. Check with your insurance plan to find out what is covered.

## State Employee Health Plan Coverage

Coverage for CALPERS members varies depending on which plan the member has. All CALPERS plans cover:

▼ Nicotine Gum

▼ Nicotine Patch

✓ Nicotine Nasal Spray

▼ Nicotine Lozenge

✓ Nicotine Inhaler

✓ Varenicline (Chantix)

✓ Bupropion (Zyban)

▼ Group Counseling

▼ Individual Counseling

▼ Phone Counseling

✓ No Tobacco Surcharge

Co-pays vary according to health plan, as do annual limits. Other treatments may be available depending on health plan.

Coverage of counseling varies by health plan, but all plans offer a variation of online counseling.

For more information, please call the CALPERS office at 877-737-7776, or visit their website

at <http://www.calpers.ca.gov/index.jsp?bc=/eip/self-id-member.jsp>

## Private Insurance Coverage

This state does not require private health insurance plans to cover cessation treatments. Cessation coverage in private health insurance plans varies by employer and/or plan. Smokers with this type of health insurance should contact their insurance plan for information on cessation benefits.

**This state does not mandate cessation coverage for private insurance plans.**

## Quitline

Contact Information: 1-800-NO-BUTTS; <http://www.nobutts.org/>

Hours: 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM Monday-Friday; 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Saturday; closed Sunday

Eligibility to receive counseling: All adult tobacco users in California are eligible to receive free telephone counseling to help them quit. Teens aged 14-17 are also eligible, with the consent of a parent or guardian. For medication: parents of children aged 0-5 and/or pregnant women with MD approval eligible for two weeks of nicotine patches, with refills as needed; callers on Helpline's nationwide Asian Smokers Quitline are eligible for a two-week starter kit of patch.

Medications provided:

✗ Nicotine Gum

✓ Nicotine Patch

✗ Nicotine Nasal Spray

✗ Nicotine Lozenge

✗ Nicotine Inhaler

✗ Varenicline (Chantix)

✗ Bupropion (Zyban)

(Source: North American Quitline Consortium, [www.naquitline.org](http://www.naquitline.org))

## American Lung Association Resources

The American Lung Association's Freedom From Smoking® program is available in several communities in California either as a direct service, as self-help materials or via a referral to local health departments that provide the program. Additional resources include Freedom From Smoking® Online, a program available 24/7 at <http://ffsonline.org> and the American Lung Association's Lung HelpLine (800-LUNG-USA). For more information about program locations and schedules, call 510-638-8984.

All plans in the Health Insurance Marketplace are required to cover tobacco Cessation treatment. Specific coverage varies by plan. Check with your insurance plan to find what is covered.

Covered California Health Plan in Los Angeles County are:

