

FEHB Open Season 2026

Family Member Documentation Checklist

OPM now requires 100% verification of every family member added to FEHB or PSHB coverage during Open Season (Nov 9 - Dec 14, 2026). Gather these documents before you enroll to avoid delays.

Adding a Spouse

- ☐ Government-issued marriage certificate
- ☐ If married 12+ months: front page of most recent federal or state tax return listing spouse, OR proof of common residency (utility/household bill) plus proof of financial interdependency (joint bank/credit statement)

Adding a Child (biological)

- ☐ Birth certificate showing the enrollee (or spouse) as parent, or equivalent document (see FEHB Handbook for alternatives)

Adding an Adopted Child

- ☐ Final adoption certificate or decree, or equivalent document (see FEHB Handbook for alternatives)

Adding a Disabled Adult Child (age 26+)

- ☐ Birth certificate or proof of parent-child relationship
- ☐ Medical certification that the disability existed before age 26 and the child is incapable of self-support

Note: OPM accepts several alternative documents for some family members (e.g., tax returns, paternity affidavits, court orders). The items above are the most common; see the FEHB Handbook or your employing office for the full list of acceptable proof.

Before You Submit

- ☐ Black out Social Security numbers and dollar amounts not required for verification
- ☐ Check with your employing office on submission method and deadline

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This checklist is for general reference only. Your employing office determines what documentation is acceptable.