

U.S. Citizenship Status FAQ

Why is Baptist Health Care asking about my citizenship status?

As of July 1, 2023, **Senate Bill 1718** requires each hospital that accepts Medicaid to include a provision during the registration process for the patient or the patient's representative to state or indicate whether the patient is a United States citizen, lawfully present in the United States, or not lawfully present in the United States.

I do not have Medicaid, why am I being asked about my citizenship status?

As a Medicaid participating hospital, Baptist Health Care is required to ask every patient about their citizenship status during the registration process.

Do I have to answer to receive care?

No, you may decline to answer.

Will my response affect the care I receive?

No, your response will not affect the care you receive.

Will answering this question result in a report of my immigration status to authorities?

No, your response will not be reported to immigration authorities.

What is this information being used for?

Baptist Health Care is required to provide a quarterly report to the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA), that details the *number* of encounters where patients responded as U.S. Citizens, lawfully present in the U.S., not lawfully present in the U.S, or declined to answer. We are not required to provide your name or personal information to AHCA.

How often do I have to answer this question?

We are required to obtain this information for each patient visit.

More information on Senate Bill 1718 can be found at <https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2023/1718>.