

# How Maven supports members through surrogacy

There are myriad ways to start a family, including surrogacy, where a person with a uterus carries a pregnancy for someone else. Surrogacy has become increasingly common, with the use of gestational surrogacy tripling in the past decade. “Surrogacy is a safe and wonderful family-building option for people who want to be involved in the pregnancy and want to potentially have a genetic link to the child, but aren’t able to do that themselves,” explains Maven provider and surrogacy coach Keely Seaverson.

Here’s what you need to know about the surrogacy process.

## THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF SURROGACY

- Traditional surrogacy, which means that the person with a uterus who provides the egg also carries the baby
- Gestational surrogacy, where embryos created from eggs and sperm from the intended parents or donors are implanted into the surrogate’s uterus



## THE LENGTHY, COMPLEX PROCESS OF SURROGACY

Understanding your options

Selecting an agency or lawyer

Selecting a fertility clinic

Empathizing with a gestational carrier

Bringing a child home

Parenthood

On average, the surrogacy process takes from 15 to 18 months. During this time, Maven offers 24/7 support with high-quality and ethical agency referrals, virtual appointments with 20+ specialists, clinically-vetted surrogacy articles and videos, and unlimited mental health coaching and education—all available at no cost to you.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF SURROGACY?

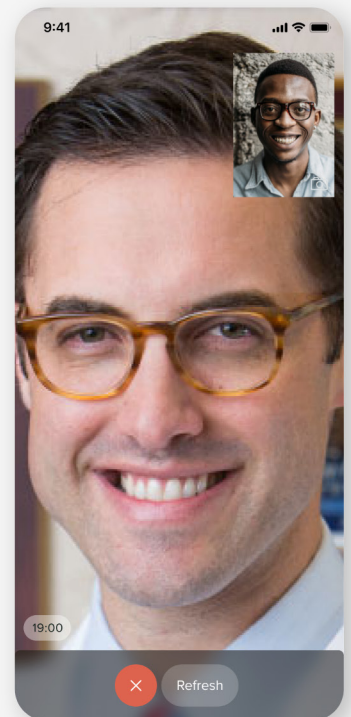
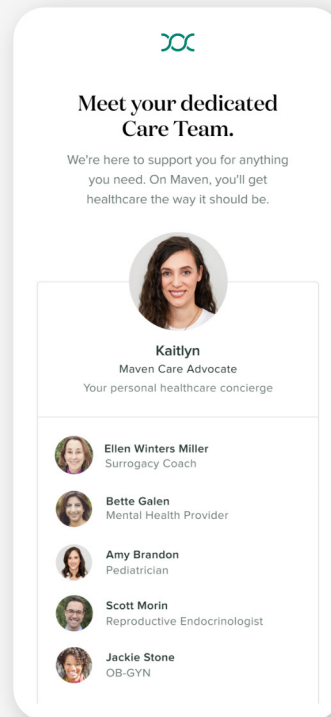
- **Accessible pathway to parenthood:** Surrogacy can be a fulfilling way to have a family and is likely to be successful—according to the [CDC](#), surrogacy has the highest success rate of any fertility treatment.
- **Increased involvement:** Surrogacy allows the intended parents to be involved in the pregnancy process, being present for key moments like embryo transfer, prenatal appointments, and birth.
- **Lower legal risk factors:** A legally-binding contract is negotiated and signed before the embryo transfer, ensuring that all parties know exactly what to expect during the process.

## WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES OF SURROGACY?

- **Budget:** Surrogacy can be extremely cost-prohibitive, with the total cost ranging from \$100,000 to \$200,000 in the U.S. Some companies may offer financial support or reimbursement for surrogacy.
- **Legal challenges:** Surrogacy is not legal in all 50 states—it's currently illegal to be a gestational carrier in Michigan, Nebraska, and Louisiana. [Surrogacy laws](#) vary drastically from state to state, meaning the process looks different depending on where you live. LGBTQIA+ couples may also have to overcome extra hurdles to have both parents recognized as legal guardians.
- **Age limitations:** Most surrogacy agencies have an age limitation of intended parents of a maximum combined age of 110 for couples, and 54 for single individuals.

## HOW MAVEN CAN SUPPORT YOU DURING SURROGACY

Maven provides inclusive support for the surrogacy journey, with specialized providers like surrogacy agency referrals, surrogacy and egg donor coaches, and dedicated Care Advocates to help guide members through every step of the process. Maven is a digital health platform for reproductive and family health, designed to support families and drive better outcomes.



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