

Points of Entry into Maryland Medicaid and Medical Care Programs for Children with Special Health Care Needs



Focus on Children with Special Health Care Needs

Maryland Children's Health Program (MCHP and MCHP Premium)

MCHP is a program for uninsured pregnant women of any age and children through age 18 that provides no-cost or low-cost health coverage. Family incomes must meet the yearly guidelines below

For Children:

Family Size	MHCP Yearly Income Limits	MCHP Premium
2	\$27,380	\$41,070
3	\$34,340	\$51,510
4	\$41,300	\$61,950

Child care expenses of up to \$200.00 a month, along with some other expenses, may be taken into account.

For Pregnant Women*:

\$34,225 for a family of two
\$42,925 a family of three
\$51,625 for family of four

* numbers include unborn child - Add \$8700 per additional family member. There is no cost for this program.

MCHP and MCHP Premium offers a full benefit package for children and young adults. There are no limits on the health services that may be provided as long as they are medically necessary.

Most children with special health care needs who are eligible for MCHP will be enrolled in HealthChoice. HealthChoice offers a choice of several managed care organizations (MCOs) depending on where you live.

Some children with special health care needs may qualify for the Rare and Expensive Case Management program or REM. This program offers intensive case management and services are provided on a fee-for-service basis.

Ask your child's current providers if they are participating in the MCO you are considering or the REM program, if applicable.

For more information call
1-800-456-8900

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

SSI is a Federal program that provides income and access to Medicaid via Maryland's HealthChoice or REM (Rare and Expensive Case Management) programs to children under 18 who have a disability, are blind, or have a chronic illness. Adults 18 and over with a disability may also qualify. Eligibility is based on the child's disability and financial need. For individuals under age 18 the family's income is used to determine eligibility. For those 18 and over, only the applicant's income is counted. Children who qualify for the Federal Supplemental Security Income or SSI automatically qualify for Medicaid. Call us for a how-to guide to SSI in Maryland.

2007 Earned Monthly Income Chart

# of other children with a disability in the home	One-Parent Household	Two-Parent Household
0	\$2663	\$3285
1	\$2974	\$3596
2	\$3285	\$3907
3	\$3596	\$4218

Documentation of the child's disability, disease, or chronic illness must be presented with the application along with proof of income and assets.

For more information call your local Social Security office or the national number at
1-800-772-1213

Waiver Programs

Waiver programs use the child's income to determine financial eligibility.

Autism Waiver Program

The Autism Waiver program is administered by the Maryland State Department of Education. The waiver serves children ages 1 through the end of the school semester that the child turns 21 who are diagnosed with autism. As a part of determining eligibility, a child must be diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder, meet an Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded Level of Care, not be enrolled in any other waiver program, and have an Individualized Educational Program (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) and receive at least 15 hours of special education and related services per week. The services that will be provided under the Autism Waiver are respite care, family training, environmental accessibility adaptations, supported employment, targeted case management, and health benefits through Medicaid.

For more information call
410-767-0264
or 410-767-5220

Model Waiver Program

The Model Waiver targets individuals with complex medical needs including technology dependent individuals who, before the age of 22, would otherwise be hospitalized and are certified as needing hospital or nursing home level of care. Through the waiver, services are provided to enable medically fragile children to live and be cared for at home rather than in a hospital. Model Waiver services include case management, private duty nursing, shift home health aide assistance, physician participation in the plan of care development, durable medical equipment and supplies and health benefits through Medicaid. Individuals who would like to apply for Model Waiver Services must contact the Coordinating Center for Home and Community Care, Inc., a case management organization.

For more information call
410-987-1048

Developmentally Disabled Waiver Program

The Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for Mentally Retarded/Developmentally Disabled Individuals, began in February of 1984, to provide services for developmentally disabled individuals, who meet an Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded (ICF-MR) level of care, as an alternative to institutionalization in an ICF-MR. Covered services under the waiver include day habilitation, residential option services, respite care, services coordination, environmental modifications, assistive technology, adaptive equipment and health benefits through Medicaid. This waiver program is administered by the Developmental Disabilities Administration of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

For more information call
410-767-5600

Baltimore Health Care Access (BHCA) offers an array of publications and fact sheets for families and providers of children with special health care needs. For more information or assistance with a concern, please call 410-649-0521 ext. 3007. TTY users call 410-649-1226.

Visit us on the web at www.bhca.org.



Information for this fact sheet was gathered from various sources including BHCA publications and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene website.