

Washington State Medical Programs (health coverage) for Children

The state of Washington continues to advocate for the health of its children by providing several health coverage options to accommodate differing age, income, and/or citizenship status. The Migrant Education Health Program worked with the Department of Social and Health Services Health Recovery Services Administration to develop a simplified overview of children's medical programs including a list of regional contacts to provide technical assistance and guidance to individuals assisting families seeking health coverage for their children.

***For purposes of income level an unborn child is counted in family size.**

Children's healthcare programs - No cost

- Children under the age of 19 and below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL) (example: family of 4 with an income of \$3,442/month).
- Once a child is enrolled they remain eligible for 12 months regardless of change of income.
- Citizen children are funded by state/federal matching funds; non-citizen children receive the same level of coverage using state only funding.
- 12 month certification.

Children's healthcare programs – Low cost

- Children under the age of 19 and below 250% of the federal poverty level (FPL) (example: family of 4 with an income of \$4,303/month).
- Once a child is enrolled they remain eligible for 12 months regardless of change of income.
- Citizen children are funded by state/federal matching funds; non-citizen children receive the same level of coverage using state only funding.
- Coverage is premium based. \$15/mo per child and a family maximum of \$45/mo.
- Cannot have other health insurance through employment or other sources.
- 12 month certification.

Medically Needy program – “Spenddown”

- Children under the age of 19 and above 250% of the federal poverty level (FPL).
- Children under the age of 19 and above 200% of FPL and not eligible for premium based children's healthcare coverage because of other health insurance coverage.
- Must be a U.S. citizen or qualified alien.
- The family shares in the cost of medical expenses (“spenddown”).
- 3 month certification.

Alien Emergency Medical (AEM)

- An emergency Medicaid program for persons who do not meet the citizenship requirements of other DSHS medical programs and are experiencing an emergent medical need.
- Must be a non-citizen (undocumented or a Legal Permanent Resident with less than 5 years legally in the country), and meet Medicaid eligibility requirements (a child, parenting a child, blind, aged, or disabled).
- Immigration status not an issue.
- Not eligible for any other medical assistance program.

Basic Health (state-funded program)

- Not Medicaid, managed by the Health Care Authority for children under age 19 and income below 200% FPL.
- Once a child is enrolled they remain eligible for 12 months regardless of change of income.
- Premiums are based on household income and family size.
- Immigration status is not an issue; citizen and non citizen children.

Charity Care

- Available through local hospitals at no charge or at a reduced charge to those who meet financial need requirements. It is generally available for persons considered “indigent”; if their family income is at or below 200% of the federal poverty level; and they do not have other financial resources available such as insurance, government programs, or regular income. Individuals need to contact their local hospital for further information.
- Immigration status is not an issue.

It is critical that parents apply for services when they are income-eligible. Once a child is enrolled in one of these programs (Children's healthcare coverage or Basic Health), they remain eligible for 12 months, regardless of change in income. Program enrollment is available through community and migrant health clinics or at a Department of Social and Health Services, Community Service Office (CSO).

State and Regional Contacts

Regional contacts available to provide technical assistance and guidance to families relating to health insurance programs include:

Health Recovery Services Administration (HRSA)

Mary Beth Ingram

Region 1 Medicaid Representative
Health & Recovery Services Admin.
Department of Social & Health Services
360-725-1327
ingramb@dshs.wa.gov

Chris Stehr

Region 2 Medicaid Representative
Health & Recovery Services Admin.
Department of Social & Health Services
360-725-1304
stehrcb@dshs.wa.gov

Kevin Cornell

Region 3 Medicaid Representative
Health & Recovery Services Admin.
Department of Social & Health Services
360-725-1423
corneke@dshs.wa.gov

Kathy Johansen

Region 4 Medicaid Representative
Health & Recovery Services Admin.
Department of Social and Health
Services
360-725-1321
johankj@dshs.wa.gov

Carole McRae

Region 5 Medicaid Representative
Health & Recovery Services Admin.
Department of Social & Health Services
360-725-1250
mcraca@dshs.wa.gov

Catherine Fisher

Region 6 Medicaid Representative
Health & Recovery Services Admin.
Department of Social & Health Services
360-725-1327
fishecl@dshs.wa.gov

CSO Representatives

Herminia Esqueda, Manager/Trainer
Region 2 Program
Department of Social and Health Services
Sunnyside CSO.....509-225-7942
esqueh@dshs.wa.gov

Sonia Ortega, Financial Leadworker
Department of Social and Health Services
Othello CSO.....509-331-2100
segurs@dshs.wa.gov

Nancy Gomez, FSS 3
Department of Social and Health Services
Omak CSO.....509-826-7568
gomezno@dshs.wa.gov

Earl Worthington, Financial Supervisor
Department of Social and Health Services
Okanogan CSO.....509-846-2015
worthea@dshs.wa.gov

Adele Snyder, Financial Supervisor
Department of Social and Health Services
Wenatchee CSO.....509-667-6001
snydeam@dshs.wa.gov

John Paquette, Leadworker 4
Department of Social and Health Services
Wenatchee CSO.....509-667-6154
johnp@dshs.wa.gov

Denise Stark, FSS 3
Department of Social and Health Services
Chehalis CSO.....360-740-3806
starkdm2@dshs.wa.gov

Mike Rhoads, Financial Supervisor
Department of Social and Health Services
Mt. Vernon CSO.....360-416-7350
rhoadme@dshs.wa.gov

Steve Fogo, Financial Supervisor
Department of Social and Health Services
Aberdeen CSO.....360-537-3700
fogosw@dshs.wa.gov

Dee Dee Brenner, Financial Supervisor
Department of Social and Health Services
Othello CSO.....509-331-2100
brenndk@dshs.wa.gov

Kami Kruzich, Financial Svc. Supervisor
Bellingham CSO.....360-714-4000
kruzikm@dshs.wa.gov

Shelba Marracci, Branch Office Admin.
Long Beach CSO.....360-642-6206
marrasj@dshs.wa.gov

Audrey Ike, Financial Leadworker
Vancouver-(Columbia River CSO)
360-759-2984
richaam@dshs.wa.gov

Bea Wilson, Financial Svcs Specialist 3
Department of Social and Health Services
White Salmon CSO.....509-493-6140
roberbr@dshs.wa.gov

Alma Rojas, Financial Svcs. Supervisor
Department of Social and Health Services
Region 2 Yakima CSC.....509-249-6401
rojasal@dshs.wa.gov

Martha Rocha, Financial Svc. Specialist
Department of Social and Health Services
Outreach Worker, La Clinica Pasco
Region 2 Yakima CSO.....509-545-2654
RochaMT@dshs.wa.gov

Rocio C. Loera, Community Relations
Coordinator, Region 2 DEAP
Sunnyside, WA.....509-839-7215
loerarc@dshs.wa.gov

This document will be electronically disseminated via the Migrant Education Health Program office. It will be updated as change dictates. **NOTE:** See *Migrant Health Program website* (www.ncesd.org/migranthealth) "Migrant Health Internet Links" for hot links to Washington State Medical programs for children.