

Medically Complex Children's Waiver – Application and Program Details

Frequently Asked Questions for Parents and Families

1. How do I apply for the program?

Applications for the Medically Complex Children's Waiver (the program) will be accepted online through the webpage, via fax or mail from October 1 through 29, 2015. The application process will require parents to answer some questions about their child's medical conditions and services. In addition, parents will be required to provide a copy of their child's most recent medical history and physical (or Well Child Check) by the child's physician.

2. How many children will be enrolled in the program?

The program was authorized by the Utah State Legislature as a pilot program (HB199, 2015 General Session) that will run through June 30, 2018. Funding authorized for the program will allow approximately 165 children to be served on an ongoing basis during the pilot period.

3. What services will be available in the program?

Children enrolled in this program will have access to respite services, as well as traditional Medicaid services.

4. If the number of program applicants exceeds the number of available openings, how will applicants be selected?

If the number of applicants exceeds the number of available program openings, HB199 requires the State to prioritize entrance into the program based on highest medical complexity and critical needs of the family.

5. The State requires a copy of the most recent medical history and physical (or Well Child Check). What does this mean?

As part of the program application, the State requires a copy of your child's most recent medical history and physical (or Well Child Check) from the child's physician. This documentation must include past medical and surgical history, problem or diagnosis list, active medication list, allergies, vital signs, physical exam and a plan of care.

6. Is financial eligibility for the program based on parental or family income?

No, eligibility for the program is based ONLY on the child's income and assets.

7. What if we've applied for Medicaid coverage before and been denied?

It doesn't matter if your child has been denied for Medicaid before, your child may still be eligible for the MCCW program. The financial eligibility requirements for this program are different from typical Medicaid requirements. For this program, ONLY your child's income and assets will be used to determine eligibility.

8. To be eligible for the program, is my child required to have a specific medical diagnosis?

No, your child is not required to have a specific medical diagnosis.

9. What are the other eligibility requirements?

To be eligible for the program, the child must meet the following requirements:

- Be 0 through 18 years of age;
- Have 3 or more specialty physicians, in addition to their primary care physician;
- Have involvement of 3 or more organ systems;
- Demonstrate a level of medical complexity based on a combination of need for device-based supports, high utilization of medical therapies, and treatments and frequent need for medical intervention; and
- Have a disability determined by the Social Security Administration or the State Medical Review Board. (See Questions 10 and 11 for more information on this item.)

10. What does it mean to have a determination of disability by the Social Security Administration or a determination of disability by the State Medical Review Board?

The language in HB199 requires children to have a certain level of disability in order to qualify for the program. The level of disability must be determined by either the Social Security Administration (SSA) or the State Medical Review Board. Some families may have already worked with the SSA to obtain a disability determination. If the child already has an SSA disability determination, the parents will be able to upload a copy of the determination as part of the application. If a child does not have an SSA disability determination, as part of the Medicaid eligibility determination process, the State will work with families to arrange to have a disability determination completed through the State Medical Review Board.

11. If my child doesn't have an SSA disability determination, will it hurt my child's chances of participating in the program?

No, it won't hurt your child's chances of participating if he or she doesn't have an SSA disability determination. For children who don't yet have this designation, the State Medical Review Board will determine the disability during the Medicaid eligibility determination process.

12. My child already has health insurance coverage. Can my child still qualify for the program?

Yes, the program is intended to assist with covering the substantial medical costs associated with caring for a child with disabilities and complex medical conditions, whether the child currently has other medical insurance coverage or not.

13. What if I have additional questions?

For more information, please contact the Utah Department of Health.

Email: mccw@utah.gov

Website: <http://health.utah.gov/ltc/mccw>