



California Children Services Program (CCS)

CCS is a statewide program that treats children with certain physically disabling conditions and diseases. The program offers medical care to children whose families cannot afford to pay for all or part of their needed care.

Who is eligible?

- The program is open to anyone who is under age 21; **and**
- Who has a physical limitation or disease that is covered by CCS; **and**
- Is a permanent resident of California;
- Individuals with certain conditions may qualify for the Genetically Handicapped Persons Program after they turn 21.

What are the income/resource limits?

- Family annual income must be less than \$40,000, **or** the child must qualify for no-cost Medi-Cal, or the family's out-of-pocket expenses for the child who qualifies is expected to be more than 20% of the family income.
- There is no family income limit for children who need diagnostic services to confirm a CCS eligible medical condition; or were adopted with a known CCS eligible medical condition; or are applying only for services through the Medical Therapy Program.
- There are no resource limits for this program.

What does it cost?

- There is no cost if a child qualifies for Medi-Cal (without a share of cost), or if the child is seeking therapy services only. **Please Note:** Children are generally eligible for no-cost Medi-Cal if family income is less than 266% FPL. Children with certain disabilities may qualify for free Medi-Cal under the Home and Community Based Waiver. <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/pages/hcsddmedicalwaiver.aspx>
- Some families pay a \$20 "Annual Assessment Fee" plus an "Annual Enrollment Fee" based on a sliding scale.

Does immigration status matter?

- No, but the parent/legal guardian must apply in the county where the child lives.

Where can families apply?

- The CCS agency in the county where a child lives approves services for a child. A family member or a health professional (doctor, school, or public health nurse) can make referrals. Only a parent or legal guardian can complete the application form. CCS will determine if the child meets the medical, residential, and financial qualifications for the program.

What services are offered?

- The CCS program provides medically necessary care and case management to infants, children and adolescents who meet the program's eligibility requirements. Services must be provided at CCS-approved hospitals, the Special Care Centers, or at a Medical Therapy Unit.

What if the family has other health insurance?

- Children may have other health insurance and still be eligible for CCS.
 - ✓ If the CCS program believes a child is eligible for full scope Medi-Cal without a share of cost, the family will be asked to apply for Medi-Cal for the CCS eligible child.

What conditions does CCS cover?

Only certain conditions are covered by CCS. In general, CCS covers medical conditions that are physically disabling or require medical, surgical, or rehabilitative services. There also may be certain criteria that determine if your child's medical condition is eligible. Listed below are categories of medical conditions that may be covered and **some examples** of each:

- Conditions involving the heart (congenital heart disease)
- Neoplasms (cancers, tumors)
- Disorders of the blood (hemophilia, sickle cell anemia)
- Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases (thyroid problems, PKU, diabetes)
- Disorders of the genito-urinary system (serious chronic kidney problems)
- Disorders of the gastrointestinal system (chronic inflammatory disease, diseases of the liver)
- Serious birth defects (cleft lip/palate, spina bifida)
- Disorders of the sense organs (hearing loss, glaucoma, cataracts)
- Disorders of the nervous system (cerebral palsy, uncontrolled seizures)
- Disorders of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissues (rheumatoid arthritis, muscular dystrophy)
- Severe disorders of the immune system (HIV infection)
- Disabling conditions or poisonings requiring intensive care or rehabilitation (severe head, brain, or spinal cord injuries, severe burns)
- Complications of premature birth requiring an intensive level of care
- Disorders of the skin and subcutaneous tissue (severe hemangioma)
- Medically handicapping malocclusion (severely crooked teeth)

For more information on medical eligibility, please read this [overview](#) or contact your [county CCS office](#).

What if I want to refer a child to CCS?

- Contact DHS Children Services Branch at (800) 288-4584 for a referral or to request services.
- You may also call the Health Consumer Center of Los Angeles at 800-896-3202 for additional help, including free legal assistance.