



Health Care Program Alternatives in Los Angeles County

Healthy Families has halted new enrollment into the program and established a wait list for applicants that did not have an approved case as of close of business on July 17, 2009.

Please take every opportunity to remind families to make their Healthy Families premium payments and to complete their Annual Eligibility Review on time.

What can I do for a child or teen that does not qualify for Full Scope Medi-Cal or is put on the Healthy Families wait list?

- **First - Has the parent's income been correctly determined?** (deductions, countable/noncountable income, sibling income, stepparent issues). You want to be sure the applicants are not actually eligible for no-cost Medi-Cal.
- **Children who may be eligible should complete the joint Healthy Families/Medi-Cal application.** This ensures that they that are included in the Healthy Families wait list if not eligible for Medi-Cal with no Share of Cost, and will be enrolled when a space becomes available. The wait list numbers will also help demonstrate the need and may help with advocacy efforts.
- **Children that are put on the Healthy Families wait list may be eligible for Share of Cost (SOC) Medi-Cal and should apply.** MCHA can provide technical assistance on the Share of Cost program and how to maximize its usefulness for an applicant.
- **AIM babies can still be registered in Healthy Families and will not be placed on the wait list.** Use the infant registration form to register the baby.
http://www.aim.ca.gov/My_AIM_Program/Register_HFP.aspx
- **Is the child under five years of age?** Enrollment is still open in the Healthy Kids program for children who are 5 1/2 and younger and meet existing Healthy Kids eligibility requirements.
- **Does the child's family have an open, active case with Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan for another sibling?** If so, you can add a child that is not currently enrolled using the Membership Update Form. You can download the form at:
http://www.mchaccess.org/training_materials.htm
- **Does the child have an urgent need for health care?** Refer to LA County Department of Health Services (LAC/DHS) or a Public Private Partnership (PPP) program, depending on area and need. For urgent or ongoing care, LAC/DHS and PPPs should offer free, sliding scale, or low-cost (for some PPP's) health care. If the family is under 133% of poverty and the child does not qualify for full scope Medi-Cal due to immigration status the child may be eligible for free coverage under Outpatient Reduced-Cost and Simplified Application (ORSA) or the PPP's free services if under 133 1/3% of poverty. If the child qualifies for full scope Medi-Cal with a share of cost, they can still use the County Pre-Pay program. You can call (800) 427-8700 to locate a LA County location or a PPP provider or search online at:

- <http://ph.lacounty.gov/phcommon/public/adrsP/adrssearchform.cfm>
- Is the child within the Child Health and Disability Prevention Program (CHDP) schedule of visits or is a problem suspected or a visit needed outside the schedule for sports physical or foster care exam? See <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/pcfh/cms/chdp/>. If so, the child can get up to two months full Medi-Cal if s/he does not already have Restricted (sometimes called Emergency) Medi-Cal. During that time, it is possible to receive care for even longer by applying for ongoing coverage. Attend an MCH Access training if you need assistance helping families in this way. To find a CHDP provider you can call toll-free (800) 993-CHDP.

CHDP Periodicity (schedule of visits):

Less than 1 month of age	9 months of age	2 years of age	9-12 years of age
2 months of age	12 months of age	3 years of age	13-16 years of age
4 months of age	15 months of age	4-5 years of age	17-20 years of age
6 months of age	18 months of age	6-8 years of age	

- **If the child is undocumented, is it possible the child is Permanently Residing Under Color of Law (PRUCOL, a Medi-Cal category) and thus eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal?**
The most likely reason is that his/her immigration status is being adjusted, the family has applied for Legal Permanent Residency (LPR or “green card”) or in some other way is adjusting status.
- **Does the child have an urgent need that may be considered an emergency?** If so, s/he may be able to use Restricted or Emergency Medi-Cal, regardless of immigration status. Having Restricted Medi-Cal will eliminate the ability to get temporary full-scope Medi-Cal from the CHDP Gateway, but will not eliminate the ability to get a CHDP exam and immunizations.
- **Is the child or teen in need of confidential services for family planning, pregnancy, rape treatment, exam or treatment for a possible Sexually Transmitted Infection, outpatient mental health care, or alcohol or drug abuse services?** S/he may be eligible for Minor Consent Medi-Cal if living in the parents’ home. The parents’ income will not count.
- **Is the child or teen in need of confidential health education, reproductive health services such as family planning, emergency contraception, or a gynecological exam, HIV and other STI screening, available from the Family PACT program?** Call (800) 942-1054 to locate a provider in your area or see www.dhs.ca.gov/pcfh/ofp/Programs/FamPACT/default.htm.
- **Does the child have a serious or chronic medical condition?** Immigrants ineligible for regular Medi-Cal and Healthy Families are still eligible for health care for serious and/or chronic medical conditions from California Children’s Services (CCS), services from Regional Centers, mental health care, etc., in addition to Medi-Cal emergency services, Minor Consent Medi-Cal, and FamPACT. See the Health Consumer Center’s brochure at <http://www.healthconsumer.org/publications.htm>. To make a referral to CCS, or for more information on the program, call (800) 288-4584.

If you would like more information or an in-service/training please contact Liz Ramirez or Yolanda Garcia at (213) 749-4261, lizr@mchaccess.org or yolandag@mchaccess.org. See our training calendar at: www.mchaccess.org

Health Care Program Options

Los Angeles County: Information Current as of July 17, 2009



Many families with children who are eligible for the Healthy Families Program but unable to enroll due to the current wait list can access health care through other programs. Use this matrix to help identify the appropriate program for the families you assist.

Program	Status	Action Needed	Other Information
Medi-Cal <i>Includes: Share of Cost, Minor Consent, Emergency or Restricted/Limited-scope</i>	OPEN	Submit application using mail-in, Health-e-App or One-e-App (where applicable)	Families with a Share of Cost should notify their worker if their income drops to lower their share of cost
Healthy Families	CLOSED to new enrollment WAIT LIST available	→ If a child is not enrolled, submit application using mail-in, Health-e-App or One-e-App (where applicable) to get child on the wait list → If a child is currently enrolled, inform families to pay premiums on time and complete the Annual Eligibility Review on time so they are not dropped from the program and put on the wait list	→ Babies born to mothers on AIM will still be enrolled in Healthy Families → Families currently engaged in the Appeals Process will stay enrolled → Families with a child already enrolled and need to add a child should submit the Add-A-Person Form to add the new child to the wait list
Healthy Kids	OPEN for children ages 0-5 CLOSED for ages 6-18	Submit application using mail-in or One-e-App (where applicable)	Children eligible for Healthy Families but placed on the wait list are not eligible for Healthy Kids.
Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan	CLOSED to new enrollment* NO WAIT LIST		*If the family has an open, active case for another child, submit the membership update form to add a child that is not currently enrolled
CHDP	OPEN	Refer a family to a CHDP provider to receive medical care and get up to 2 months of full-scope Medi-Cal coverage through CHDP Gateway	Children already enrolled in Emergency Medi-Cal cannot get full-scope Medi-Cal
CCS	OPEN	Submit an application	
Family PACT	OPEN	Refer a family to a Family PACT provider	
PPP Program	OPEN	Refer a family to a PPP facility	
ORSA	OPEN	Refer a family to a Los Angeles County hospital or clinic to apply	
ATP	OPEN	Refer a family to a Los Angeles County hospital or hospital-based clinic to apply	

This is a letter being sent to families who apply to Healthy Families but are placed on the wait list because there is not enough money to enroll more children in the program. If Healthy Families gets additional money to enroll children, families will receive another letter. If there is not additional funding, children will be on the wait list through June 2010. IMPORTANT: Some disabled and other children on the waiting list might be income eligible for no cost Medi-Cal but were screened only for the Medi-Cal percentage programs. Some Medi-Cal programs allow families to have more income; contact MCHA for more information (213) 749-4261.

Family Member Number: FMN



DATE

HOH_NAME
ADDR_LINE_1
ADDR_LINE_2
CITY, STATE ZIP

Dear Applicant:

Recently, you asked us to enroll the child listed below in the Healthy Families Program:

[NAME_1]
[NAME_2]
[NAME_3]

We cannot do this because Healthy Families does not have enough state money to cover more children. Your child has been placed on a waiting list as of [WL_DT].

If you applied for a child who is not listed here, you will get another letter from Healthy Families telling you about coverage for that child.

What you have to do

Healthy Families will send you another letter with instructions when there is enough money for your child. If Healthy Families does not get additional money, your child will be on the waiting list through June 2010. You **do not** need to complete another application at this time. Make sure you notify Healthy Families if your address changes.

There may be other health care programs that can help you

Free Medi-Cal Program:

If your income changes and is below Healthy Families guidelines, you may qualify for free Medi-Cal. Free Medi-Cal provides health care coverage to children under age 19 who meet the program rules. To learn more about free Medi-Cal, call your county Medi-Cal office at:

CNTY NAME
CNTY ADDRESS
CITY, ST ZIP

CNTY_MC_PHONE

County Children’s Health Insurance Program:

There are many counties that have free or low-cost health care programs for children. These county programs provide health, dental and vision coverage for children under age 19 who meet their program rules. Your child may qualify for the county program. If you have questions about the county program, call them at:

[Program Name] [Program Telephone Number]
Website: [Program Website Address]

Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan:

You also may be able to get health coverage through Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan. Many counties have a Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan. This plan provides low cost health, dental, and vision coverage for children under age 19 who meet their program rules. To learn more about Kaiser Permanente Child Health Plan, call 1-800-464-4000.

Medi-Cal with a Share-of-Cost Program:

There is another program that your child might qualify for. Your child may qualify for Medi-Cal with a share-of-cost. If your child qualifies for Medi-Cal with a share-of-cost, you will have to pay money for your child’s medical care for that month. The amount you have to pay will be up to the share-of-cost amount. If you have to pay a share-of-cost amount, then Medi-Cal will pay for the remaining costs for that month. For months where your child has no medical expenses, there is no Medi-Cal share-of-cost amount that you must pay.

To learn more about Medi-Cal with a share-of-cost, call your county Medi-Cal office at:

CNTY NAME
CNTY ADDRESS
CITY, ST ZIP

CNTY_MC_PHONE

IMPORTANT! Most babies born to mothers in the AIM program may enroll in Healthy Families without an application. We must be told about the baby’s birth and get some additional information. Healthy Families must get this information within 11 months after the baby is born. If this is your situation, you may call 1-800-880-5305 to find out whether your child may enroll in Healthy Families.

Questions?

If you have questions, please call 1-800-880-5305, Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., or on Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The call is free. You can also check our website for program updates at www.healthyfamilies.ca.gov.

Thank you,

Healthy Families Program