

Children's Special Health Care Services

➤ What is Children's Special Health Care Services?

The Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) program is supplemental insurance that provides financial assistance for needed medical treatment to children with serious and chronic medical conditions to reduce complications and promote maximum quality of life.

➤ What other names does Children's Special Health Care Services go by?

Children's Special Health Care Services like other programs is sometimes referred to by several different names. Families should be aware that the program may be called Children's, CSHC, Crippled Children's, or Special Health Care.

➤ How is medical eligibility determined?

Medical eligibility requires that a child be under 21 years of age and have a severe chronic medical condition that:

- has lasted (or is expected to last) at least two years
- will produce disability or disfigurement or limits on function
- require special diet or devices, or
- would produce a chronic disabling physical condition if untreated

Some of the physical conditions that may qualify a child for services from CSHCS include (others may also qualify):

- apnea
- arthritis
- autism
- severe asthma
- cerebral palsy
- chronic anemia
- cleft lip and/or palate
- congenital or acquired developmental deformities
- congenital heart disease or arrhythmias
- chromosomal disorders
- chronic pulmonary disease
- cystic fibrosis (life time coverage)
- endocrine deficiencies
- profound hearing loss
- severe hemophilia
- hydrocephalus
- inflammatory bowel disease
- inborn errors of metabolism
- neuromuscular dysfunction
- myelodysplasia or spinal cord dysfunction
- oncologic disorders
- renal disease
- seizure disorder

➤ What are the financial/income guidelines?

A family with an income (before taxes) under 250% of the federal poverty level may qualify.

Household Size	Effective Date February 21, 2007
2	\$35,000
3	\$44,000
4	\$53,000
5	\$62,000
6	\$71,000
For each additional member add:	\$9,000

➤ **What does CSHC cover/provide?**

Depending on a family's needs and the child's medical condition, services may include:

- community referrals and information
- diagnostic evaluation
- comprehensive primary and secondary care visits
- immunizations
- prescription drugs
- routine dental care
- other services related to the eligible medical conditions

Children's will also provide mileage reimbursement for travel to and from medical appointments (if travel exceeds 50 miles total). It is important to remember that all other insurance must be used first, and primary insurance policies must be followed before CSHCS will consider payment. All services that CSHCS pays for must be directly related to the eligible medical condition. For example, for a child with severe asthma, CSHCS may pay for medications needed and visits to a pulmonologist, but it will not pay for treatment for a broken leg.

➤ **How do I apply?**

A family can apply at their county Division of Family Resources' office, a local First Steps office or at the CSHC office located at Riley Hospital. If you have difficulty reaching your local DFR, need assistance, or prefer an application be mailed to you, you may call CSHCS Customer Service at 1-800-475-1355. To complete the application, you'll need:

- your child's birth certificate
- proof of residence (rent or property payment receipt, voter's registration, driver's license, last year's federal income tax return, or city directory listing)
- health insurance information
- proof of parent(s)/guardian(s) income (three consecutive current paycheck stubs or recent federal income tax forms)
- social security number of child

➤ **How can I learn more?**

More information about the program can be found at <http://www.in.gov/isdh/programs/cshcs> or by calling the CSHCS Customer Service at 1-800-475-1355. If you need assistance in filling out a CSHCS application, ask your First Steps service coordinator or call Family to Family at 1-800-964-4746.

For more information or to talk with other First Steps parents, call 1-800-964-4746 or email familynetw@abouthealthkids.org. You can also visit Family to Family online at www.inf2f.org.

