

# Children's Special Health Care Services

## Apply for CSHCS:

- At Riley Hospital, Room 1669 Indianapolis, IN
- Call **1-800-475-1355** to have an application mailed to you.
- Via First Steps Coordinator
- Download application <https://www.in.gov/health/cshcs/participant-eligibility/>

## What is Children's Special Health Care Services?

The Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) provides supplemental medical coverage to help families of children who have serious, chronic medical conditions, age birth to 21 years of age, who meet the program's financial and medical criteria, pay for treatment related to their child's condition.

## Are There Other Names Children's Special Health Care Services is Known By?

The CSHCS program, 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.

## Who is Eligible?

Eligibility for diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitative services is based on both medical and financial criteria.

Medical eligibility requires that a child be 21 years of age or younger. There is an exception to the age requirement (no age limit) for an individual with Cystic Fibrosis. The child must 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
- requires a 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:

- apnea
- autism
- cerebral palsy
- cleft lip and/or palate
- congenital heart disease or arrhythmias
- chronic pulmonary disease
- endocrine deficiencies
- severe hemophilia
- inflammatory bowel disease
- neuromuscular dysfunction
- renal disease
- oncologic disorders
- congenital or acquired developmental deformities
- arthritis
- severe asthma
- chronic anemia
- seizure disorder
- chromosomal disorders
- cystic fibrosis (lifetime coverage)
- hydrocephalus
- inborn errors of metabolism
- myelodysplasia or spinal cord dysfunction
- bilateral permanent hearing loss of 40 dB or greater

NOTE: All Indiana children and youth who have special health care needs (CYSHCN) are eligible to receive [Care Coordination services](#) through the program. Contact 317-233-1351; Toll Free 1-800-475-1355, Option 7; or email [cshcscarecoordinatio@isdh.in.gov](mailto:cshcscarecoordinatio@isdh.in.gov).

**Apply for CSHCS:**

- At Riley Hospital, Room 1669  
Indianapolis, IN
- Call  
**1-800-475-1355**  
to have an application mailed to you.
- Via First Steps Coordinator
- Download application  
<https://www.in.gov/health/cshcs/participant-eligibility/>

**Financial/Income Guidelines:**

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

**What does CSHCS 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
- mileage reimbursement for non-Medicaid covered participants, travel to and from medical appointments (if travel exceeds 50 miles total)
- other services related to the eligible medical condition(s)

**NOTE:** It is important to remember that all other insurance must be utilized first and the rules of 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(s) with the exception of routine primary and dental care visits, immunizations, and prescription drugs. 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 the CSHCS office located at Riley Hospital, Room 1669, in Indianapolis, via First Steps or you may call CSHCS Customer Service at 317-233-1351, or 1-800-475-1355-Option 2, and an application will be mailed to you.

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)
- health insurance information
- proof for all household members income (three consecutive current paycheck stubs, most recently filed federal income tax forms, all Government Award letters, private/public pension information, child support or TANF)
- Social Security number of child

An application can be downloaded by going to:  
<https://www.in.gov/health/cshcs/participant-eligibility/>

**How Can I Learn More?**

More information about the program can be found at <https://www.in.gov/health/cshcs/>, or by calling CSHCS Customer Service at 317-233-1351, or 1-800-475-1355.

Programs and systems change often. It is important to ensure that you are using the most current information. This fact sheet was updated May 2022. Please check <https://www.inf2f.org/fact-sheets.html> for the most recent edition.

Supported in part by funding from the Indiana State Dept. of Health and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).