

Arkansas

Children's Medical Services (CMS)

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Toll-free Hot Line: Children with Special Health
Care Needs

Telephone: (in state only)
1-800-482-5850, ext. 22277
(501) 682-2277

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

AGE:

Birth to 18 years of age.

RESIDENCY:

Individuals must physically reside within the state of Arkansas. Patients moving into the state who have been eligible for CMS in another state are accepted for transfer if they meet medical and financial eligibility criteria.

MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

Medically eligible individuals are those who have chronic illnesses, disabilities or conditions that if not corrected could lead to a chronic illness or disability. Individuals' medical need must require the services of a physician or surgeon with specialized skills beyond the level of care provided by the family physician.

Eligible Conditions:

There are no specific diagnostic criteria.

Excluded Conditions:

None specifically excluded. Contact the Program directly for more information.

FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

Consideration is given to income as compared with recognized standards of need and the extent to which available resources can be used to meet the current cost of medical care. The probable cost of treatment is a significant factor in determining financial eligibility.

General Financial Eligibility:

CMS Financial Scale is based on progressive layers of poverty levels and is re-evaluated each April 1. Steps are arrived at by counting each eligible household member (parents, client, and client's siblings under age 18). Add one step for each additional sibling on CMS.

<u>% of poverty</u>	
A	100%
A+	120%
B	133%
B+	150%
C	165%
C+	185%
D	250%

Financial Eligibility for Initial Screening:

Potentially eligible individuals may receive approval for diagnostic services at no charge.

Family Co-Payment or Financial Participation Requirements:

Contact the Program directly for more information.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

SERVICES:

A medically eligible individual will be treated by CMS only for his or her eligible condition and periodic pediatric examinations. Some dental and/or orthodontia services and well child visits are provided to children with chronic medical conditions, who are not on Medicaid when funding is adequate. Special equipment not covered by Medicaid is also purchased when funds are available. Examples are ramps and lifts.

Eligible Services:

Medically necessary services for the specific diagnosis for which the child is accepted in the program.

Excluded Services:

Organ transplants (However, children requiring transplants should or may be eligible for some category of Medicaid in Arkansas.)

HOW/WHERE SERVICES ARE PROVIDED:

Primary care physicians, specialty clinics, private pediatric specialists, Children's Hospital, and community hospitals.

Specialty Clinics/Programs:

Habilitation
Orthopedic

Out-of-State Services:

Out-of-state services are provided if needed care is not available in Arkansas. Services may be obtained in bordering cities, such as Memphis and Texarkana, if an eligible child resides closer to medical facilities in these areas than another in-state facility.

COORDINATION OF FINANCIAL BENEFITS AND SERVICES:

Coordination of Financial Benefits:

CMS will not pay for services that can be covered by Medicaid. All applicants will be screened for Medicaid eligibility and informed of potential eligibility. Parents must access all available payment resources. All available insurance benefits will be utilized prior to CMS.

Coordination of Services:

Coordination of services is provided. Additionally all recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and children on TEFRA, under age 16 are eligible for CMS regardless of financial status. Each Service Team consists of a registered nurse, medical secretary, and, when possible, a licensed social worker.

SPECIALIZED OR UNIQUE SERVICES, SPECIAL GRANTS, WORKSHOPS, ETC.:

Parent Advisory Council - Representatives from all CMS areas. Meets quarterly (Friday night and Saturday).

Parent Support Groups.

Coordinate TEFRA for Medicaid.

Prior approval of Specialty Services for Children on Medicaid.

STATUTORY/REGULATORY AUTHORITY:

Ark. Code Ann. § 20-76-201, 202 (Michie 1991)