

Children's Health Programs



Objectives

1

Identify the main components of three statewide children's health programs in California: California Children's Services, Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Regional Centers, and DDS' Early Start program

2

Describe the features and benefits of each program

3

Describe the age, residential, medical, and financial eligibility criteria for each program

4

Be able to preview services, eligibility, and intake procedures with patient families

Today's presenters and panelists



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Medi-Cal Programs



California Children's Services

CCS is a state funded medical care coordination program for children under the age of 21 with chronic, disabling, or life-threatening CCS-eligible medical conditions that require specialty medical care.



Regional Center

Regional Centers are state funded facilities contracted with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to support individuals with developmental disabilities.



Regional Center Early Start

The Early Start program ensures early intervention services for infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities are provided in a coordinated and family-centered system of services.

California Children's Services (CCS)

CCS services for CCS-eligible conditions

CCS eligibility diagnostic testing

High-risk infant follow-up

Home and school consultation

Home health care

Hospital and surgical care

Lab tests and X-rays

Medical and orthopedic equipment

Medications

Neonatal Intensive Care Units

Neuropsychological testing

Nurse Case Manager care coordination

Occupational therapy

Physician services

Private duty nursing

Physical therapy

Social worker services

Special Care Centers

Speech therapy



CCS eligibility

Age

Residential

Medical

Financial



CCS eligibility

Age

- CCS program-eligible patients must be less than 21 years of age.
- Blue Shield Promise coordinates transition planning:
 - Before age 18 to non-pediatric CCS specialty providers.
 - Before age 21 to non-CCS providers.
 - When there are changes in residential, medical, or financial eligibility.

Residential

Medical

Financial

CCS eligibility

Age

- California residents must apply for services in their county of residence.
- Provider services should be within 30 miles of the patient's home to be considered in-network.

Residential

Medical

Financial

CCS eligibility

Age

Member has a [CCS-eligible](#) chronic, disabling, or life-threatening medical condition including:

- Accidents
- Congenital anomalies
- Diseases of:
 - Blood and blood-forming organs
 - Eye, ear, or mastoid
 - Musculoskeletal system and connective tissue
 - Nervous, circulatory, respiratory, digestive, or genitourinary systems
 - Skin and subcutaneous tissues
- Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases
- Infectious diseases
- Immune disorders
- Immunization reactions
- Neoplasms
- Perinatal morbidity and mortality
- Poisonings
- Violence

Residential

Medical

Financial

CCS eligibility

Age

Children meet [financial eligibility criteria](#) when the family has:

- Full-scope or Share-of-Cost Medi-Cal
- An adjusted gross income of \$40,000 or less, or
- Out-of-pocket costs are expected to exceed 20% of adjusted gross income for the eligible condition.

Residential

Income is not a factor when:

- Diagnostic services are required to confirm a CCS eligible medical condition; or
- A child is adopted with a known CCS eligible medical condition; or
- Only medically necessary occupational and/or physical therapy services are needed (Medical Therapy Program); or
- Full Medi-Cal benefits are received

Medical

Financial

CCS Medical Therapy Program only eligibility

The Medical Therapy Program (MTP) is a special program within California Children's Services (CCS) that provides physical therapy (PT) and occupational therapy (OT) services for children who have disabling conditions, generally due to neurological or musculoskeletal disorders.

Eligibility criteria

Ages three to 21 years

At least one of the following conditions:

- Cerebral palsy
- Neuromuscular conditions that produce muscle weakness and atrophy
- Chronic musculoskeletal and connective tissue diseases or deformities
- Ataxias, degenerative neurological disease, or other intracranial processes

Under three years

Two or more of the following:

- Exaggerations of, or persistence of, primitive reflexes beyond the normal age (corrected for prematurity)
- Increased deep tendon reflexes (DTRs) that are three or greater
- Abnormal posturing as characterized by the arms, legs, head, or trunk turned or twisted into an abnormal position
- Hypotonicity, with normal or increased DTRs, in infants below one year of age
- Asymmetry of motor findings of trunk or extremities

CCS intake process

- 1 Doctor/parent/teacher/Blue Shield Promise (anyone) sends referral to County CCS office
- 2 Physician sends diagnosis report of potential CCS eligible medical condition to Blue Shield Promise or County CCS
- 3 County CCS approves medical condition eligibility
- 4 Family or youth fills out and signs application for CCS services
- 5 County CCS Nurse Manager, together with Blue Shield Promise Nurse Manager, coordinates care
- 6 Providers, parents, teachers, or Blue Shield Promise submit Service Authorization Request forms to County CCS
- 7 County CCS sends health care service approvals to providers, family's home, and Blue Shield Promise
- 8 Family schedules appointments and gets medications and equipment

All CCS eligible condition services, except emergencies or out-of-state services, must receive prior authorization by the local county CCS office. CCS requires that physicians are approved (paneled) prior to providing care.

Regional Centers

Regional Center services ages 3 - 21



Ages 3 - 10 years

Behavior intervention

Crisis support

Day care support

Incontinence supplies

IEP support

In-home respite care

Overnight/out of home respite

Parent education classes

Referrals

Service coordination

Social skills training

Support groups

Translation

Transportation



Ages 11 - 17

Behavior intervention

Crisis support

Day care support

Incontinence supplies

IEP support

In-home respite care

Overnight/out of home respite

Parent education classes

Referrals

Residential homes

Self-advocacy groups

Service coordination

Social skills training

Some medical equipment

Support groups

Translation



Ages 18 - 21

Adult day services

Behavior intervention

Crisis support

Driver training

Independent living training

In-home respite care

Overnight/out of home respite

Referrals

Residential homes

Self-advocacy groups

Service coordination

Social skills training

Some medical equipment

Supported employment

Supported living

Regional Center eligibility

Age

Substantial disability

Diagnosis



Regional Center eligibility

Age

A person may receive services at any age, but the developmental disability diagnosis must occur during the “developmental period” from birth to 18 years.

Substantial disability

Diagnosis

Regional Center eligibility

Age

Substantial disability

Diagnosis

“Substantial disability” means:

1. A condition which results in major impairment of cognitive and/or social functioning, representing sufficient impairment to require interdisciplinary planning and coordination of services to assist the individual in achieving maximum potential; and,
2. The existence of significant functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity, as appropriate to the person's age:
 - Receptive and expressive language
 - Learning
 - Self-care
 - Mobility
 - Self-direction
 - Capacity for independent living
 - Economic self-sufficiency.

Regional Center eligibility

Age

Substantial disability

Diagnosis

- The primary Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) diagnosis must be a developmental disability.
- Developmental disabilities include:
 - Autism spectrum disorder
 - Cerebral palsy
 - Epilepsy or seizure disorder
 - Intellectual disability
 - Other conditions closely related to intellectual disability that require similar treatment such as neurofibromatosis, tuberous sclerosis, or Prader-Willi syndrome
- Regional Centers don't provide services to persons solely diagnosed with:
 - Deafness or blindness
 - A learning disability (dyslexia, etc.)
 - A mental illness (schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, etc.)
 - A speech disorder

Regional Center intake process

- 1 Local Regional Center “Intake” department contacted and phone screening completed
- 2 Potential client and family interviewed by Intake Service Coordinator (at office and/or home)
- 3 Available medical, psychological, and school records reviewed
- 4 School or community observation may be conducted
- 5 Other clinicians may also assess the potential client (physician, psychologist, OT/PT, etc.)
- 6 Psycho-social intake assessment completed (see below for details)
- 7 Clinician team makes eligibility determination (if ineligible, referred to other resources)
- 8 Eligible clients assigned a Service Coordinator
- 9 An Individual Program Plan is developed with the client, family, and Service Coordinator

The psycho-social assessment covers birth and developmental history, family constellation and functioning and the applicant's abilities in the following areas: cognitive, motor, communication, social, emotional, educational/vocational, and self-care/independent living skills.

Regional Center Early Start Program

Regional Center Early Start services

Behavior intervention

Early identification assessment

Early intervention programs

Family training

Feeding therapy

Incontinence supplies

Individual Family Service Plan

Nursing supports

Nutrition services

Occupational therapy

Physical therapy

Referrals

Service coordination

Special instruction

Speech therapy

Support groups

Translation

Transportation



Regional Center Early Start eligibility

Age

Substantial delay

High risk



Regional Center Early Start eligibility

Infants and toddlers from birth to 3 years of age (0-36 months)

Age

Substantial delay

High risk

Regional Center Early Start eligibility

Age

Substantial delay

High risk

Experiences a 33% delay in at least one developmental domain:

- Adaptive – daily activities, self help skills
- Cognitive – learning, problem solving
- Communication – speech, language
- Physical – gross motor, fine motor
- Social and emotional – interactions with others, managing emotions

Regional Center Early Start eligibility

Age

Has a risk factor for developmental delays or disabilities such as:

- Prematurity of <32 weeks gestation and/or low birth weight.
- Prenatal substance exposure.
- A parent with a developmental disability.

Are born with a condition with a known probability of causing a developmental delay or disability such as:

- Genetic conditions (e.g., Down syndrome).
- Cerebral palsy.

Substantial delay

High risk

Blue Shield Promise support to age 21

California Children's Services

- Identifies and refers members to County CCS
- Authorizes and pays for non-CCS eligible conditions (primary care, specialty care, prescriptions, medical equipment, and other supplies)
- Facilitates referrals to CCS approved providers and facilities in our network
- Provides care coordination and case management
- Assists with coordination of transition planning to adult CCS providers before age 18 and non-CCS providers before age 21
- Assists with adult living arrangements, legal decisions, and educational, social, and recreational services

Regional Centers

- Identifies and refers members to local Regional Center
- Authorizes and pays for medically necessary needs and prescriptions not provided by Regional Center
- Ensures members are referred for evaluation
- Provides care coordination and case management of medically covered services identified in the Individual Family Service Plan or Individual Program Plan

Program services summary

California Children's Services to age 21	Regional Center services ages 3-22	Early Start services to age 3
Behavioral health (counseling)	Adult day services	Behavior intervention
CCS eligibility diagnostic testing	Behavior intervention	Early identification assessment
High-risk infant follow-up	Crisis support	Early intervention programs
Home and school consultation	Day care support	Family training
Home health care	Driver training	Feeding therapy
Hospital and surgical care	Incontinence supplies	Incontinence supplies
Lab tests and X-rays	Independent living training	Individual Family Service Plan
Medical/orthopedic equipment	IEP support	Nursing supports
Medications	In-home respite care	Nutrition services
Neonatal Intensive Care Units	Overnight/out of home respite	Occupational therapy
Neuropsychological testing	Parent education classes	Physical therapy
Nurse Case Manager	Referrals	Referrals
Occupational therapy	Residential homes	Service coordination
Physician services	Self-advocacy groups	Special instruction
Private duty nursing	Service coordination	Speech therapy
Physical therapy	Social skills training	Support groups
Social worker services	Some medical equipment	Translation
Special Care Centers	Support groups	Transportation
Speech therapy	Supported employment	
	Supported living	
	Translation	
	Transportation	

Resources

California Children’s Services	Regional Centers	Regional Centers Early Start
Website	Website	Website
County offices list	Los Angeles county directory	Contact numbers
Medical eligibility	Patient zip-code RC look-up	Healthcare providers brochure
Eligibility application (English)	Medical information	FAQ
Eligibility application (Spanish)	Early signs of autism video	Free family resources:
Potential clients’ pamphlet	Developmental disability facts	Reasons for concern pamphlet
New referral request	CDC resources	Family guide to intervention
Service authorization request	Parent information	Family introduction to Early Start
Authorizations and claims info		
Special Care Centers		
High-risk infant follow-up		
Hospice information		
Paneling standards		
Paneling application		

Provider Education on Provider Connection

blueshieldca.com/provider.com



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