



Texas Parent to Parent

The Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) Services Program



The CSHCN Services Program within the Texas Department of State Health Services, (DSHS) helps children with special health care needs and people of any age with Cystic Fibrosis through many programs and initiatives including health care benefits, case management and family and community support services.

HEALTH CARE BENEFITS

Health care benefits are available to those who:

- live in Texas;
- are under age 21 (or are of any age and have a diagnosis of cystic fibrosis);
- have a certain level of family income;
- need more health care than what children usually need;
- have a medical problem expected to last at least 12 months that limits one or more major life activities; and,
- have physical symptoms (not solely a mental, behavioral or emotional condition or delay in development)

Services to clients receiving health care benefits include:

- Medical, dental and mental health care
- Medications
- Travel expenses for health care visits
- Specialized therapies, such as physical or occupational therapy
- Medical supplies and Durable Medical Equipment
- Nutrition services and nutritional products
- Home health nursing
- Hearing and vision services
- Orthotic and prosthetic devices
- Health insurance costs
- And more...

Currently, the CSHCN Services Program has a waiting list for health care benefits. This means that new clients will not be able to receive health care benefits until they are removed from the waiting list.

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website: www.txp2p.org ★ Email: info@txp2p.org

Once a child is eligible for the CSHCN Services Program, it is important to fill out the renewal paperwork every 12 months so the child stays in the program. Clients on the waiting list must also renew the application annually. Otherwise, the child may be removed from the program and placed back on the CSHCN Services Program waiting list.

To apply for the CSHCN Services Program's health care benefits:

- Call 1-800-252-8023 to get connected to either a regional office or a community-based partner organization.

When you apply for the CSHCN Services Program you will be asked to provide:

- The CSHCN Services Program application form.
- Proof of resident address.
- Proof of date of birth.
- Proof of family income.
- Paperwork or identification cards for any other health insurance.
- A CSHCN Services Program Physician/Dental Assessment Form that your child's doctor or dentist fills out with a qualifying diagnosis and what the program calls a determination of "urgent need for service." This form must be signed by your child's doctor or dentist.

We encourage families to visit the CSHCN Services Program website and apply at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/cshcn/>.

CASE MANAGEMENT

Case Management services are available to ALL children with special health care needs in Texas, even if they are not a CSHCN Services Program client. Case management helps children and families identify needs, establish goals, develop a plan, access services and monitor progress.

A case manager can help families with school meetings, transitioning to adulthood and finding a medical home. These services are available across the state through CSHCN Services Program's community-based case management contractors or licensed social workers within DSHS' health regional offices. To find a case manager, visit <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/cshcn/CSHCN-Regional-and-Local-Offices.shtm>.

FAMILY SUPPORTS & COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Support for families is available through the CSHCN Services Program's network of local, community-based partner organizations. These organizations provide a range of services including family-to-family support, information and referral,

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education/training and respite. Not all types of services are available in all parts of the state. To find out if there is a community-based contractor in your area, visit the CSHCN Services Program website at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/cshcn/Community-Based-Contractors.shtm>.

A Transition Toolkit with links to many resources for transition-age youth, their families, providers and others is available at:
<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/cshcn/Transition-Resources.aspx>.

Anyone can sign up for the program's email and/or text updates through GovDelivery at:
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXHHSC/subscriber/new?topic_id=TXHHSC207.

Visit the CSHCN Services Program website at <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/CSHCN/> for more information. Or call: 1-800-252-8023 (Toll Free); 512-776-7355 (Austin)

Program staff are available to answer questions and guide families to supports and services.

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