

SLOPE *Cares*

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO MEDICAID'S

HEALTH COVERAGE OPTIONS

Did you know if your child has a disability, they may be eligible for free healthcare and support services?

The Health First Colorado program provides free or low-cost health care for children with disabilities to Colorado residents. This program allows families of eligible children to access Medicaid, even if they have a higher income. Qualified children may also receive a waiver for additional benefits and services.

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Applications

- Health First Colorado Application
[English/ Spanish](#)
- Disability Determination Application
[English/ Spanish](#)

Contacts

- Direct Line to Medicaid Buy-In (CMAP)
[1-800-711-6994](tel:1-800-711-6994)
cmapbuyin@dhha.org
- Peak Portal: [Click Here](#)
- Arbor Action Review Group (ARG)
[877-672-2077](tel:877-672-2077)
actionreviewgroupmrt@arboret.com
- [Case Management Agency Directory](#)



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Common Terminology



Click the blue highlighted links to learn more

- [Health First Colorado](#): This is the state's Medicaid program, distinct from CHIP +.
- [Medicaid Buy-In](#) (CMAP) This offers affordable healthcare for children and working adults with disabilities who exceed the income limit for state Medicaid.
- [Case Management Agency](#). To enroll in a waiver, you must contact this agency, in addition to submitting a disability determination also needed for Medicaid. application
- [Home Based Community Services](#) (HBCS): These waivers provide additional Medicaid benefits to support caregivers and help keep children with their families.
- [Community First Choice](#) (CFC): Set to launch in July 2025, this program will offer some waiver services to individuals who previously did not qualify, expanding access to services not available under their current waivers.
- [Case Managment Agency](#) (CMA) A regional agency responsible for managing HCBS waivers and CFC disability services.
- [Long Term Support Services](#) (LTSS)
- [Disability Determination \(DD\) Application](#) This application is required for Colorado to recognize individuals with disabilities
- [Arbor Action Review Group](#) (ARG) This group evaluates disability criteria to determine Medicaid eligibility based on SSI criteria
- [Supplemental Security Income](#) (SSI) This may provide federal financial support for caregivers and those who are determined to have a disability have direct access to Medicaid, bypassing ARG and CMAP

Medicaid Buy-In Program



Individuals with disabilities who have been denied access to the Health First Colorado Medicaid Program due to exceeding income limits now have another avenue for obtaining full Medicaid benefits through Colorado's Medicaid Buy-In. However, adults must be employed in order to apply for themselves. This requirement does not extend to children.

Benefits

- Monthly premium based on income
- There are adjustments considered to determine premium
- No copays for children
- May be eligibility for a Children's Waiver
- July 1st, 2025 Eligible for Community First Choice

Eligibility Criteria

- Children and Adults with a Disability determined by either
- Social Security Administration
- Or by Colorado via the Disability Determination Application

How to Apply

- Apply for Health First Colorado (Medicaid) to check income eligibility
- Complete the Disability Determination
- Submit Disability Determination and Medicaid Application. See next page

Income Chart to determine Premium Payment

Federal Poverty Level	0% - 133%		134% - 185%	186% - 250%	251% - 300%
Monthly Income Family Size: 1	\$0 - \$1,670		\$1,671 - \$2,322	\$2,323 - \$3,138	\$3,139 - \$3,765
2	\$0 - \$2,266		\$2,267 - \$3,152	\$3,153 - \$4,259	\$4,260 - \$5,110
3	\$0 - \$2,862		\$2,863 - \$3,981	\$3,982 - \$5,380	\$5,381 - \$6,455
4	\$0 - \$3,458		\$3,459 - \$4,810	\$4,811 - \$6,500	\$6,501 - \$7,800
5	\$0 - \$4,055		\$4,056 - \$5,640	\$5,641 - \$7,621	\$7,622 - \$9,145
6	\$0 - \$4,651		\$4,652 - \$6,469	\$6,470 - \$8,742	\$8,743 - \$10,490
7	\$0 - \$5,247		\$5,248 - \$7,299	\$7,300 - \$9,863	\$9,864 - \$11,835
8	\$0 - \$5,844		\$5,845 - \$8,128	\$8,129 - \$10,984	\$10,985 - \$13,180
Monthly Premium	\$0		\$70	\$90	\$120

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The Children's Extensive Support (CES)



What is it?

The Children's Extensive Support (CES) Waiver helps children and families by providing services and supports that help children with developmental disabilities establish a long-term foundation for community inclusion as they grow into adulthood. If your child receives services through the CES waiver, your child will also receive state Medicaid coverage.

Criteria for Eligibility

- Individuals under 18 years of age
- Living in the family home
- In need of direct human assistance for behavioral or medical conditions, averaging at least every two hours during the day and every three hours at night on a weekly basis
- Conditions that go beyond typical age-appropriate behaviors
- Have been assessed by the SSA or ARG as having a developmental delay or disability (with an IQ or Adaptive Score of 70 or below)

What are the benefits?

- Adaptive Therapeutic Recreational Equipment and Fees
- Assistive Technology
- Community Connector
- Home Accessibility Modifications and Adaptations
- Homemaker
- Massage Therapy
- Massage Therapy
- Movement Therapy
- Primary Caregiver Education
- Respite
- Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies
- Vehicle Adaptations
- Youth Day
- Learn more here: [CES Waiver](#)

How do I apply?

Contact Rocky Mountain Health Plans

Phone: 970-243-7050

Emails: CMAIntake@uhc.com

Rocky Mountain Health Plans is the Case Management Agency for a specific region in Colorado. Find your agency here to apply [CMA Directory](#)

Family Voices of Colorado

Healthcare Advocates who assist with denials or general questions about eligibility

Website: [Intake Form](#)

Phone: [303-877-1747](tel:303-877-1747)

Email: info@familyvoicesco.org

The Children's Habilitation Residential Program Waiver (CHRP)



What is it?

The Children's Habilitation Residential Program Waiver (CHRP) offers services and assistance to children and their families, establishing a strong foundation for community inclusion as children transition into adulthood. CHRP helps children stay in the community and access support to prevent crisis or institutionalization.

Criteria for Eligibility

- Under the age of 20 years old
- Intensive behavioral or medical support needs that put them at risk or in need of out-of-home placement
- diagnosis with mental disorder by a licensed professional
- Functional impairments affecting family, social, school, or community life
- Emotional disturbances in the past 12 months, not related to substance abuse
- You has an intellectual or developmental disability or developmental delay if under age 5 (no longer required)

What are the benefits?

• Habilitation Services - Residential 24-Hour Support

- Cognitive Services
- Communication Services
- Emergency Assistance Training
- Independent Living Training
- Personal Care Services
- Self-Advocacy Training
- Supervision Services
- Travel Services

- Child and Youth Mentorship
- Massage
- Movement Therapy
- Respite
- Wraparound Services
- Community Connector Services
- Learn more here: [CHRP Waiver](#)

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Children with Life-Limiting Illness Waiver (CLLI)



What is it?

The Children with Life-Limiting Illness Waiver program provides Health First Colorado benefits in the home for children with a life-limiting illness. This waiver allows you to seek curative treatment while your child receives supportive care. These benefits can help your child remain in your home and community. If your child receives services through the CLLI waiver, your child will also receive state Medicaid coverage.

Is my child eligible?

- Under 18 years old
- Your child must have a life-limiting illness certified by a physician.
- Your child must be at risk of institutionalization in a hospital setting.
- Meets criteria for disability under the Social Security Administration
- Based on the child's income
- Lives in the family home

What are the benefits?

- Counseling/Bereavement Services
- Expressive Therapy
- Massage Therapy
- Palliative/Supportive Care
- Respite
- Therapeutic Life-Limiting Illness Support
- Learn more here: [CLLI Waiver](#)

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Children's Home & Community Based Services (CHCBS) Waiver



What is it?

The Children's Home and Community-Based Services Waiver (CHCBS) is available for children with significant medical needs and at risk for institutional care in an acute hospital or skilled nursing facility. CHCBS also works with the support that families and communities provide.

If your child receives services through the CHCBS waiver, your child will also receive state Medicaid coverage.

Is my child eligible?

- Under 18 years old
- The child requires medical care that would typically be provided in a skilled nursing facility or an acute hospital.
- Meets criteria for disability under the Social Security Administration
- Based on the child's income
- Lives in the family home

What are the benefits?

- [The Wellness Education Benefit \(WEB\)](#) aims to reduce the need for higher care levels by providing educational materials that help members and families prevent disability progression, enhance community engagement, combat isolation, and improve Medicaid service awareness.
- [In-Home Support Services \(IHSS\)](#) allows you to manage your care attendants and health maintenance services with agency support. You can select, train, and manage attendants or delegate these tasks to an authorized representative to meet your unique needs.

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HOW TO APPLY



You must first apply for [Health First Colorado](#) (Medicaid) to ensure your child does not qualify based on current income



[Complete the Disability Determination Here](#)



Submit Disability Determination and Medicaid Application to Denver Health CMAP



By Mail: Denver Health CMAP 655 Bannock Denver Colorado 80204
By Email: cmapbuyin@dhha.org



Need to Know

- ARG, a third-party contractor, reviews disability claims.
- ARG has 90 days to make a determination; follow up as the deadline approaches.
- If no determination is received after 90 days, reach out to Slope Cares for assistance.
- If you receive a denial, and you disagree contact Slope Cares for assistance



Helpful Tips

- Bypass the Department of Human Services and Peak Portal for quicker support.
- Denver Health manages the Buy-In Program and submits your DD Application.
- Submit all documents reflecting a disability; evaluations, IEP, 504 etc
- Write a cover letter (see next page)

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Application Cover Letter



Slope Cares suggests adding a cover letter to the Disability Determination Application, detailing your child's disability and its effects.

- Request confirmation of the application submission date to ensure a timely determination.
- Download this template to copy, paste, and customize.
- Once you get the determination from Arbor Action Review Group, please send a copy to your region's Case Management Agency?
- [CMA Directory Here](#)

(Optional) Copy & Paste Confirmation Letter to Denver Health CMAP

To: Denver Health CMAP/Arbor Action Review Group

I am confirming receipt of my application and supporting documents sent via email. I kindly request a time-stamped copy of my application submission to ARG.

Additionally, I am including a letter detailing how my son's disability impacts our daily lives. He faces challenges in self-care, emotional regulation, and social interactions, requiring more assistance than typical for his age. His excessive energy and need for sensory input pose safety risks, necessitating constant supervision. He also struggles with verbal expression, leading to emotional dysregulation and potential risks of self-harm.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
(Your Name)
(Address)
(Phone)
(Email)

Need Assistance, reach out

 slopecares@slopecares.com

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