

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](#)
- Social Security Disability Criteria
[Click here](#)

Contacts

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



Need Assistance, reach out



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Medicaid Buy-In Program



Benefits

- Monthly premium based on income
- There are adjustments considered to determine premium
- No copays for children
- Eligible for Community First Choice
- May be eligible for a Children's Waiver

Eligibility Criteria

- Children under 19
- Disability determined by the Social Security Administration
- Or identified 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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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; evlautations, IEP,504 etc
- Write a cover letter (see next page)

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Letter Templates & Terminology



Once you download this PDF, you can easily copy and paste these templates and customize them to suit your child's unique circumstances.

Confirmation Letter to Denver Health CMAP

To Whom It May Concern: Denver Health CMAP,

I am reaching out to confirm that you have received my application along with all supporting documents that were sent to my email. Additionally, I kindly request a time-stamped copy that verifies when my application was submitted to ARG. This information will help me prevent any unnecessary delays in my review process with the Arbor Action Review Group.

Thank you for your assistance. If you require any further documents or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,
Your Name

- Please remember to include the address where you would like the timestamp confirmation sent, whether you applied via email or by mail.

Cover Letter for Disability Determination

To Whom It May Concern: Arbor Action Review Group,

I am writing to explain my child's need for support. My son, (child's name), faces challenges in school, community, and home, prompting us to pursue various interventions due to his diagnosis.

He struggles with self-care tasks, emotional regulation, and social interactions. His disability requires assistance with daily activities beyond typical expectations for his age. He has excessive energy and seeks sensory input, which can pose safety risks and requires constant supervision. He also has difficulty verbally expressing his needs outside, often leading to emotional dysregulation and potential risks of self-harm or harm to others.

I appreciate your time in considering this information.

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Common Terminology



- [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.
- [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 Management 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

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

- Under 18 years old
- Diagnosed with a developmental disability
- Resides in the family home
- Requires direct human intervention for behavior or medical conditions on average of at least every two hours during the day and weekly every three hours at night
- Conditions must exceed typical age-appropriate behaviors
- Meets the Federal Social Security Administration's definition of disability

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

For SSI Criteria visit [SSI website](#)

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's Home & Community Based Services (CHBCS) 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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