

Healthy Kids

Healthy Kids is a program started by many counties in California to provide free or low-cost healthcare coverage to children who do not qualify for no cost full-scope SOC Medi-Cal or Healthy Families. Program eligibility varies by county so it is important to refer to the specific requirements for the county in which the family resides.

Los Angeles County

Healthy Kids provides comprehensive health care to children from birth up to their 19th birthday. This program is funded by the First 5 LA Commission and the Children's Health Initiative (CHI) of Greater Los Angeles.

Who is eligible?

- Children from birth up to their 19th birthday (**Currently, applications are no longer being accepted for children greater than 5 ½ years old. Please visit www.champ-net.org to stay updated on the status of enrolling children 5 ½ -18 years old*)
- Children who are not eligible for no SOC Medi-Cal or Healthy Families
- Families must reside in Los Angeles County

How does immigration status affect eligibility?

- The child's immigration status does not matter. Undocumented children within the income limits for this program are eligible for services.

What are the income limits?

- Healthy Kids uses the Federal Income Guidelines (FIG) to determine eligibility. See table below.
- Family income at or below 300% of the FIG.

(Use until March 31, 2009)

Family Size (parents and children)	Monthly income before taxes is between
1	\$ 0 - \$ 2,600
2	\$ 0 - \$ 3,500
3	\$ 0 - \$ 4,400
4	\$ 0 - \$ 5,300
5	\$ 0 - \$ 6,200
6	\$ 0 - \$ 7,100

For example, a family of 3 must have a monthly income at or below \$4,400 (300% FIG).

Are there resource limits?

- Resources are items a family may own, such as cars, houses, jewelry, savings or checking accounts, etc. This program does not take resources into consideration.

What is the cost? (Refer to chart below)

- There are no monthly premiums or co-payments for families with income levels at or below 133% of the FIG.
- For families with incomes above 133% of the FIG, there are two costs with this program:
 - Monthly premiums
 - \$4 per child for families with incomes between 134% and 150% of the FIG.
 - \$6 per child for families with incomes between 151% and 300% of the FIG.
 - Families can receive a 25% discount on their premiums if they pay six months worth of premiums in advance (semi-annual payment). The prepayment costs are \$18 per child for families with incomes between 134% and 150% of the FIG or \$27 per child for families with incomes between 151% and 300% of the FIG.

NOTE: Regardless of family size, families will only have to pay for the first two children. Any additional children will be covered at no cost.

2. Co-Payments: \$5 co-payment (maximum co-payment of \$250 per family per year) is charged for most outpatient services, such as doctor visits. There is no charge for preventive care, such as immunizations and dental check-ups.

- Payments can be made by personal check, cashier’s check, or money order.

Cash payments will not be accepted.

- Partial premium payments will not be accepted.

NOTE: Payments **SHOULD NOT** be sent in with the application.

FAMILY INCOME AND PREMIUM CHART

(Use until March 31, 2009)

	\$0 premium/child	\$4 premium/child Up to maximum of \$8 per family	\$6 premium/child Up to maximum of \$12 per family
FAMILY SIZE	0-133% FPL	134-150% FPL	151-300% FPL
1	\$0.00 - \$1,153.00	\$1,153.01 - \$1,300.00	\$1,300.01 - \$2,600.00
2	\$0.00 - \$1,552.00	\$1,552.01 - \$1,750.00	\$1,750.01 - \$ 3,500.00
3	\$0.00 - \$ 1,951.00	\$1,951.01 - \$2,200.00	\$2,200.01 - \$ 4,400.00
4	\$0.00 - \$ 2,350.00	\$2,350.01 - \$2,650.00	\$2,650.01 - \$ 5,300.00
5	\$0.00 - \$ 2,749.00	\$2,749.01 - \$ 3,100.00	\$3,100.01 - \$ 6,200.00
6	\$0.00 - \$ 3,148.00	\$3,148.01 - \$ 3,550.00	\$3,550.01 - \$ 7,100.00

NOTE: Waivers will be available through the hardship fund for families who cannot afford to pay the premiums.

What benefits are covered?

- This program offers health, dental, vision, prescription services, and mental health services.

What if families miss their premium payments?

- If families miss their premium payments, L.A. Care will contact them six times over a 60-day time period to assist them in getting enrolled in the premium assistance program.
- If L.A. Care is unable to make contact with the families within these 60 days, a 30-day disenrollment notice will be sent to these families.

What if children have other health insurance?

- Children may be eligible for Healthy Kids even if they receive Restricted (Emergency) Medi-Cal or Share of Cost Medi-Cal.
- Children receiving California Children Services (CCS) and who do not have no-cost Medi-Cal may be eligible for Healthy Kids.
- Children do not qualify for Healthy Kids if they currently have employer-sponsored health insurance. However, if the employer-sponsored insurance provides only dental or vision coverage, the children can enroll in Healthy Kids.
- Children currently enrolled in Medi-Cal or Healthy Families are not eligible for Healthy Kids.

What documents are required?

- Proof of income
- Proof of residency in Los Angeles County

How do children receive services?

- The children are covered through L.A. Care providers.
- The children will receive dental coverage through SafeGuard Dental and vision coverage through VSP Vision Care. Safeguard Dental will send a list of directories to the families.
- If families wish to change their children's Primary Care Provider (PCP), they can call 1-888-839-9909. All changes will occur on the 1st of the following month if the request is received by the 20th of the month. If the request is received after the 20th of the month, then the change will not go into effect until the 1st of the second consecutive month.
 - **For example:** If a request is made on July 2nd, then the change will go into effect on August 1. If the request is made on July 25th, then the change will go into effect on September 1.

How can families apply for Healthy Kids?

- Families must submit a complete application by the 19th of the month in order for their children to be enrolled the next month. If applications are received after the 19th of the month, children may not be able to be enrolled until the second consecutive month.
- If children meet the eligibility guidelines the family will receive an "Approved" letter with their Healthy Kids Case #, PCP name, and effective date,
- After children are enrolled, families will receive a welcome package in the mail. The welcome package will include:
 - Healthy Kids ID card

- Member Handbook/Evidence of Coverage Booklet
 - Provider Directory
- Families may apply at agencies participating in Healthy Kids enrollment. Please contact L.A. Care for more information at 1-888-452-5437.

What can families do if they have problems getting services?

- They can call the L.A. Care Health Plan member services at 1-888-839-9909
- If parents have complaints or concerns, grievances can be filed in person, by phone or in writing to:

L.A. Care Health Plan
Grievance Manager
555 W. Fifth Street, 18th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90013
1-888-839-9909

Where can more information on the Healthy Kids Program be found?

- The website for L.A Care Health Plan is www.lacare.org.