

# Special Health Matters

## Medicaid D Program

### ♥ Is my child with special health care needs eligible for Medicaid D?

In the state of Utah, applying for SSI (Social Security Income) is not the same as applying for Medicaid. Disability Medicaid pays for medical bills, while SSI provides some financial support. Medicaid is run by the state whereas SSI is run by the federal government. It is encouraged for people to apply for both. Family Medicaid is based on poverty level. With Disability Medicaid, the factors change on how income and assets are counted. Medicaid gives more deductions from income than SSI does.

### ♥ Important things to remember

- ***An important thing to remember when filling out the Medication application for Disability Medicaid is to mark the "Disability" box. Some families may be denied Medicaid because they are not eligible for family Medicaid but would have qualified for Disability Medicaid.***
- ***The Caseworkers are responsible to get best program for family and look at every possible program for every person in household.***
- ***Disability Medicaid exempts assets that other programs do not. If a family has more than one car, one is exempt because it is needed for the medical transportation of the child with disability.***
- ***A home is also necessary, so it is exempt as well.***
- ***Retirement funds for parents are not considered assets for a child with a disability.***
- ***It is also important to remember that a family can still receive Medicaid benefits even if they have primary health insurance.***
- ***If a provider accepts the child as a Medicaid patient, they also accept what Medicaid pays them. The patient has no co-payment.***
- ***For those families who not speak English, there are many Spanish speaking case managers, as well as other languages The languages represented are Laotian, Vietnamese, Cambodian, German, French and Tongan. Medicaid pays for an interpretation line for interviews. This includes interpretation for deaf child. It's important to arrange a head of time so that an approved translation services will be available for the appointment with family and child.***
- ***Spanish applications for Medicaid are available.***
- ***While the Disability Medicaid eligibility process takes time, when the application is accepted, they can make it retroactive for three months back.***

### ♥ Keep Records

The Medicaid Review Board determines the eligibility of the child. The Review Board consists of members from the Department of Health, three medical examiners, and two part-time physicians. There are a variety of records that are useful in determining the child's disability, such as growth charts-failure to thrive or developmental problems. If the child has been hospitalized, be sure to get the discharge summaries because they have an overall view of the hospitalization and treatment.

### ♥ Resources

**Medicaid D Program and Eligibility** [http://www.medhomeportal.org/file.cfm?file\\_id=329&](http://www.medhomeportal.org/file.cfm?file_id=329&) (source)

**General Information about Utah Medicaid** [http://hlunix.hl.state.ut.us/medicaid/html/general\\_info.html](http://hlunix.hl.state.ut.us/medicaid/html/general_info.html)

**Utah Clicks** [www.utahclicks.org/](http://www.utahclicks.org/)