



Medical Assistance: For a Child Under Age 18

Medical Assistance has the greatest coverage of medical and mental health services for persons under 18. It is the ONLY insurance that always covers Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services (BHRS). Medical Assistance can be a child's only insurance or it can be used with another insurance plan.

Is my child eligible for Medical Assistance?

Not ALL children with a certain diagnosis will qualify for Medical Assistance. However, many children with severe disabilities will qualify for Medical Assistance, regardless of their parent's income.

A child must:

- Be under the age of 18
- Meet the Social Security Disability guidelines. To check if a child meets the guidelines visit: <http://services.dpw.state.pa.us/oimpolicymanuals/ma/index.htm>

The Application Process

You will need:

- A copy of your child's birth certificate
- Child's social security card
- Documentation of child's disability or condition
Remember to document how a disability or condition affects the child's physical and neurological (walking, talking, feeding, etc.), sensory (ability to see or hear), cognitive (ability to understand), and psychological functioning (ability to have friendships, avoiding dangerous behavior or situations).

How to apply:

You can fill out an application on paper or you can apply online.

- For a paper application call Healthy Kids Hotline at 1-800-986-5437 Return completed form to your County Assistance Office. To find your office visit: <http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/findfacilsandlocs/countyassistanceofficecontactinformation/index.htm>
- To apply online: www.compass.state.pa.us