

# Children With Special Health Care Needs Services Program (CSHCN SP)

Health Service Region 1(HSR 1)



# Children With Special Health Care Needs Program (CSHCN)

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CSHCN has 2 definitions:

- 1) Global, overarching definition of the services provided to all children who may have a special health care need.
- 2) A health benefits program provided by DSHS for a specific group of children who meet eligibility requirements. (Also known as the Children With Special Health Care Needs Services Program, or CSHCN SP)



# Goals of CSHCN/SWS Program

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- **Program is charged with coordinating case management for any identified Texas child who has a special health care need.**
- **To support families so that children with special health care needs can live at home and in their own community.**



# CSHCN Services Program History

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- ***History:***

- Established in 1933 as the Crippled Children's Program; renamed the Chronically Ill and Disabled Children's Program (CIDC) in 1989.
- Originally designed as a diagnosis specific program.
- Senate Bill 374, 76<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session:
  - Renamed the program to CSHCN Services Program,
  - Expanded program medical eligibility criteria from diagnosis specific to a functional definition of the special needs population,
  - Removed assets test for financial eligibility,
  - Authorized family support services, and,
  - Allowed waiting list for services as needed to remain within budgetary limitations.
- The CSHCN Services Program is not an entitlement program.



## CSHCN Services Program, continued

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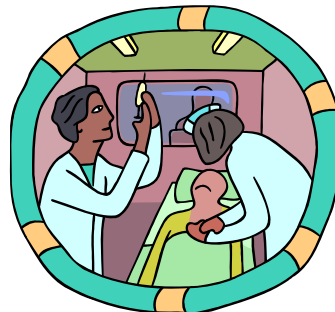
- **Program Components:**
  - **Health Care Benefits**
    - Direct medical, dental, and family support services
    - Enabling Services – Meals, Lodging, Transportation, and Insurance Premium Payment Assistance
  - **Case Management**
  - **Community-based Family Supports and Community Resources**
  - **Systems Development for children with special health care needs and their families**
    - Education/training
    - Information/referral
    - Needs assessment
    - Interagency collaboration
    - Annual plan/quality improvement activities/reporting to address Title V national and state CSHCN performance measures

- ***Program Eligibility for Health Care Benefits:***

- Must be younger than 21 years of age and have a chronic physical or developmental condition; or have cystic fibrosis, regardless of age.
  - May have a behavioral or emotional condition that accompanies the person's physical or developmental condition; however, does not include a person who has a behavioral or emotional condition without an accompanying physical or developmental condition.
- Must be a resident of Texas.
- Must have a family income that is less than or equal to 200 percent of the federal poverty level.
- Eligibility must be renewed every six months.

# CSHCN SP Assists with:

- Doctor visits
- Hospitalizations (up to 60 days a year)
- Unlimited Medications
- Medical equipment (wheelchairs, braces, artificial limbs)
- Medical supplies
- Nutritional services/supplements and medical foods
- Physical, occupational, speech therapy
- Home health care
- All regular medical care will be covered for CSHCN SP clients
- Augmentative Communication Devices will be available for clients with insufficient communication skills
- Dental Services
- Renal dialysis (acute or chronic)
- Family Support Services





## CSHCN Services Program, continued

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- ***Waiting List for Health Care Benefits:***

- Implemented October 5, 2001, due to expenditure projections exceeding available funds for Fiscal Year 2002.
- All clients on the CSHCN Services Program waiting list are program eligible and must renew eligibility every 6 months.
- Waiting list clients are offered case management.
- Under current rule, clients who have an urgent need for health care benefits are prioritized for removal from the waiting list to begin receiving health care benefits.
  - Urgent need is based on a physician or dentist attesting that delay in receiving benefits could result in loss of life, permanent increase in disability, or intense pain and suffering; and the client has no other comprehensive health care coverage.





## CSHCN Services Program, continued

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- ***Waiting List Removal Process***

- Program staff reviews expenditures and develops projected expenditures to determine if appropriations are sufficient to remove clients from waiting list.
- Program staff determines the number of clients that can be removed and sustained within current appropriations.
- In accordance with Rider 63, staff reports that funds are available to remove clients from the waiting list to the Governor and LBB at least 15 days prior to moving clients from the waiting list.
- After the 15 day notification period, clients are notified that they are being removed from the waiting list and will begin receiving health care benefits.



## *For More Information...*

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- Visit our website...
  - [www.dshs.state.tx.us/cshcn](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/cshcn)
- Phone...
  - 1-800-252-8023
  - 512/458-7111, ext. 3110
- Email...
  - [cshcn@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:cshcn@dshs.state.tx.us)
- Mailing address...
  - Mail Code 1938, Program ID G31000  
Purchased Health Services Unit  
Department of State Health Services  
1100 West 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, Texas 78756



# Helpful Internet Links

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HSR1: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/region1/>

CSHCN: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/cshcn>