

Special Health Care Needs

Special Health Care Needs (SHCN) provides statewide health care support services, including service coordination, for children and adults with disabilities and chronic illness. State and federal funding support SHCN services. To be eligible for SHCN services, an individual must be a Missouri resident, have a special health care need, and meet medical and financial eligibility when required. There is no fee for applying for these services.

Adult Brain Injury (ABI) Program

The ABI Program assists Missouri residents, ages 21 to 65, who are living with a traumatic brain injury (TBI). Through service coordination, the program links individuals to resources that enable each person to obtain goals of independent living, community participation, and employment. Individuals who meet financial eligibility requirements may also receive community-based rehabilitation services to help achieve identified goals. Rehabilitation services include counseling, vocational training, employment supports, and home and community-based support training.

Brain Injury Waiver (BIW) Program

The BIW Program provides service coordination and home and community-based services to MO HealthNet recipients ages 21 to 65 who are living with a traumatic brain injury (TBI). Individuals must require medical care equivalent to the level of care received in a nursing home, not be enrolled in another waiver, and have been diagnosed with a TBI. Authorized services may include in-home personal care, applied behavioral analysis, assistive technology, cognitive rehabilitation therapy, environmental access and modification, neuropsychological evaluation, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech therapy.



Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) Program

The CYSHCN Program provides assistance statewide for individuals from birth to age 21 who have or are at increased risk for a medical condition that may hinder their normal physical growth and development and who require more medical services than children and youth generally. The program focuses on early identification and service coordination for individuals who meet medical eligibility guidelines. As payer of last resort, the CYSHCN Program provides limited funding for medically necessary diagnostic and treatment services for individuals whose families also meet financial eligibility guidelines.



Family Partnership Initiative

The Family Partnership strives to enhance the lives of individuals and families impacted by special health care needs, providing resources and information to empower families to live a good life. The Family Partnership hosts regional and statewide events to benefit families through development of leadership skills, networking among peers, and staying current with trends and issues. Special Health Care Needs employs Family Partners, who are parents of individuals with special health care needs and are well equipped to assist in exploring options and solutions for the unique needs of individuals with complex medical conditions.

Call 800-451-0669 or visit health.mo.gov/shcn

Healthy Children and Youth (HCY) Program

The HCY Program provides service coordination and authorization for medically necessary in-home services for MO HealthNet recipients with special health care needs from birth to age 21. Service coordination includes assessment through home visits and links to services and resources that enable individuals to remain safely in their homes with their families. Authorized services may include personal care, nursing care, and skilled nursing visits.

Medically Fragile Adult Waiver (MFAW) Program

The MFAW Program provides service coordination and authorization for medically necessary services to MO HealthNet recipients with serious and complex medical needs who have reached the age of 21 and are no longer eligible to receive services through the HCY Program. Individuals must require medical care equivalent to the level of care received in an intermediate care facility, not be enrolled in another waiver, and have been eligible for private duty nursing through the HCY Program. Authorized services may include personal care, nursing care, registered nurse visits, and specialized medical supplies.

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Special Health Care Needs
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SHCN provides interpreter services (language or sign) for participants and/or family members. Alternate forms of this publication for persons with disabilities may be obtained by contacting the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services at the number listed.

An EO/AA employer: Services provided on a nondiscriminatory basis. Individuals who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, or have a speech disability can dial 711 or 1-800-735-2966.

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Special Health Care Needs



Missouri Department of
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