

FACT SHEET

Healthy Start and Healthy Families

Healthy Start and Healthy Families are Ohio Medicaid programs which provide eligible Ohio children, pregnant women, and families comprehensive health coverage. In 2008, Ohio Medicaid expanded Healthy Start eligibility guidelines to cover more of Ohio's uninsured.

Ohioans who qualify for Healthy Start and Healthy Families programs gain access to important services like: doctor visits, prescriptions, hospital care, immunizations, vision and dental care, substance abuse, mental health services and more.

Healthy Start

Healthy Start covers children (up to age 19) in families with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL).

The program also covers pregnant women (any age) in families with income at or below 200% of the FPL and certain children younger than age 21 aging out of the foster care system.

Pregnant women are eligible for Healthy Start coverage during the entire pregnancy and up to 60 days after the baby is born. Babies born to mothers on Healthy Start are automatically eligible for free health coverage for one full year from the date of birth.

Healthy Start
Monthly Income Guidelines for
Children & Pregnant Women

Family Size	200% FPL
1	\$1,805
2	\$2,429
3	\$3,052
4	\$3,675
Based on 2009 federal poverty guidelines and change annually.	

Healthy Start
Monthly Income Guidelines:
Insured vs. Uninsured

Family Size	150% FPL	200% FPL
1	\$1,354	\$1,805
2	\$1,822	\$2,429
3	\$2,289	\$3,052
4	\$2,757	\$3,675

Based on 2009 federal poverty guidelines and change annually.

Can children have other health insurance and still qualify for Healthy Start?

Children in families whose income is between 150% and 200% of the FPL must be considered "uninsured" to be eligible for Healthy Start. Please note: Children in families with income below 150% FPL can have other health insurance and still qualify for Healthy Start.

See the chart to the left to see if a child must be uninsured in order to qualify for Healthy Start.

Healthy Families

Healthy Families provides the same quality health coverage as Healthy Start to parents/caregivers and their dependent children who have income at or below 90% FPL. These families can have other health insurance and still qualify for coverage. The chart below shows how much income a family can have to qualify.

Healthy Families: Monthly Income Guidelines	
Family Size	90% FPL
1	\$813
2	\$1,093
3	\$1,374
4	\$1,654
Based on 2009 federal poverty guidelines and change annually.	

Application Process

Families can apply for Healthy Start or Healthy Families using the Combined Programs Application (CPA) - JFS Form #07216. No face-to-face interview is necessary. Applications are available:

- Online: <http://jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/>
- At Medicaid Consumer Hotline: 1-800-324-8680 (TDD 1-800-292-3572 for the hearing impaired). Hotline staff can provide general information or offer assistance in filling out the application over the telephone
- At local county department of job & family services

To complete an application for health coverage, applicants must send their application and copies of the following documents to their local office of job & family services:

- Proof of income
- Proof of pregnancy (if applicable)
- Proof of U.S. citizenship (one-time proof; original document or certified copy) or alien status
- Proof of other health insurance coverage (if applicable)

To maintain coverage, children must reapply every 12 months; families must reapply every 6 months. Families with income slightly higher than what is listed in the income charts above should still apply because a portion of certain monthly expenses will not be counted (e.g., child care, child support etc.)

Still Not Eligible?

The Children’s Buy-In (CBI) program is for Ohio’s uninsured children in families with income above 300% FPL. CBI allows working families that have uninsured children with special health needs or high monthly insurance premiums to purchase public health coverage for their children. Children must be uninsured for six months prior to enrolling and meet additional criteria in order to qualify. Monthly premiums will be calculated based on income. Please note: This program is not available through the local county departments of job and family services. Interested applicants must apply online: <http://jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/cbi>