What is CHIP?

CHIP, short for the Children’s Health Insurance Program, covers uninsured kids and teens up to age 19 who are not eligible for Medical Assistance in Pennsylvania. It’s easy to sign up, and even easier to qualify.

Maybe you lost your job or health care has gotten too expensive. No matter why your kids don’t have coverage right now, CHIP may be able to help.

Apply online
Visit CHIPcoversPAkids.com and click on “Apply and Renew.”

Apply by mail
Print a copy of the application at CHIPcoversPAkids.com. Fill it out and mail it, along with necessary paperwork, to the CHIP insurance company of your choice.

Apply by phone
Call 1-800-986-KIDS (5437) and choose Option 2 to apply by phone. You also can call a CHIP insurance company listed online to apply by phone or request an application. They would be happy to send you one, and can help answer your questions.

Your uninsured child may be eligible
Based on your family’s size and income, your child or teen may be eligible if:

- Younger than age 19
- A U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or qualified noncitizen
- A Pennsylvania resident
- Not eligible for or enrolled in Medical Assistance

To keep kids covered, CHIP must be renewed every year. It is not automatic, but it is easy. Your CHIP insurance company will send a renewal form 90 days before coverage ends, and they can help you through the process.

CHIPCOVERSPAKIDS.COM
800-986-KIDS (5437)
Quality providers help keep kids strong

Nine out of 10 families covered by CHIP would highly recommend the program to friends and family. It’s easy to see why. CHIP is brought to you by leading health insurance companies who offer quality, comprehensive coverage.

You have your choice of major insurance companies with large networks of doctors, specialists, and care facilities near you. Your kids may even be able to keep visiting the same doctors they see now.

No matter which health insurance company you choose, you’ll get the same quality service and CHIP benefits.

CHIP is always there to keep kids strong

CHIP is there with quality, comprehensive health insurance coverage for routine doctor visits and more, including:

- Immunizations
- Routine checkups and well visits
- Prescription drugs
- Dental, eye care, hearing services
- Hospitalization
- Durable medical equipment
- Substance abuse treatment
- Partial hospitalization for mental health services
- Rehabilitation therapies
- Home health care
- Maternity care

It’s free in most cases

Most kids receive CHIP for free. Others can get the same benefits at a low cost. There is no limit on income. If you make too little to qualify for CHIP, your child or teen may be enrolled in Medical Assistance.

Ready to apply?

Here’s what to have on hand:

- Total household income before taxes (including wages, child support, unemployment, etc.)
- Social Security number of household members applying for CHIP
- Birth dates of household members
- Current/recent health insurance information, if applicable
- Proof of citizenship or legal residency of applicant (if not a U.S. citizen)

Apply online, by mail, or phone. Applications take approximately four to six weeks to process.