

Provider Paneling & Approved Hospitals/ Special Care Centers

Introduction

Purpose

The purpose of this module is to provide an overview of the California Children's Services (CCS) program requirements for becoming a CCS-paneled provider or an approved hospital.

Module Objectives

This module provides participants with information about the following:

- Become familiar with the paneling process
- Identify provider types that require paneling
- Explain various approval types of CCS-approved hospitals and Special Care Centers
- Understand where to submit an application to become a CCS-paneled provider or CCS-approved hospital

Resource Information

Medi-Cal Subscription Service (MCSS)

MCSS is a free subscription service that enables providers and others interested in Medi-Cal to receive subject-specific links to Medi-Cal news, *Medi-Cal Update* bulletins, urgent announcements and/or System Status Alerts via email. For more information and subscription instructions, visit the MCSS Subscriber Form at (www.medi-cal.ca.gov/mcss).

References

The following reference includes provider paneling information.

Provider Manual Reference

Part 2

California Children's Services (CCS) Program Provider Paneling (cal child panel)

Acronyms

A list of current acronyms is located in the *Appendix* section of this workbook.

CCS Program Paneling Description

The CCS program panels and approves providers and hospitals that are qualified to provide services for CCS clients with special health care needs. Paneling is a process that the CCS program uses to determine if a provider meets the advanced education, training and/or experience requirements for his or her provider type in order to provide services for CCS clients or applicants with special health care needs. The Systems of Care Division (SCD) requires that all physicians and Allied Health professionals be CCS-paneled in order to be issued an authorization to provide services to CCS clients. If there are any questions regarding the submission of the application, please contact the Provider Services Unit at (916) 322-8702.

NOTE

GHPP providers are not required to be paneled.

CCS Paneled Provider Types

The SCD requires that all physicians be CCS-paneled in order to be authorized to provide services to CCS clients. In addition, CCS paneling is required for some Allied Health providers.

The following provider types require paneling:			
* <i>Provider types with program participation limitations</i>	Occupational Therapists	Physicians	Respiratory Care Practitioners
	Orthotists & Prosthetists	Podiatrists	Social Workers
Audiologists	Pediatric Nurse Practitioners *	Psychologists	Speech-Language Pathologists
Dietitians	Physical Therapists	Registered Nurses	

Application Requirements

It is important that all providers applying for CCS paneling must have the following:

- A National Provider Identifier (NPI)
- NPI registered with Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
- Current medical license
- Current board certification
- Current board certificate in specialty or subspecialty

Exceptions: Allied Health providers who are employees of a hospital or facility and physicians who are employees of a Rural Health Clinic (RHC) or Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) are exempt from the provider number requirement because the facility bills for services rendered using the facility's provider number.

NOTE

State CMS no longer panels dental providers. Dental providers include dentists, orthodontists and maxillofacial surgeons. Dental providers requesting to participate in the CCS program must have an active Denti-Cal provider number/NPI.

For information about becoming a Denti-Cal provider, please contact:

California Medi-Cal Dental Program
 P.O. Box 15610
 Sacramento, CA 95852-0610
 1-800-423-0507

Website: (www.denti-cal.ca.gov)

Physician and Podiatrist Provider Paneling Application

The *Individual Provider Paneling Application for Physicians and Podiatrists* form (DHCS 4514) can be found at:

(<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/forms/Forms/ChildMedSvcForms/dhcs4514.pdf>)

Or on the CMS Website: (<https://cmsprovider.cahwnet.gov/PANEL/index.jsp>)

CCS Provider Paneling Requirements

Physicians

Specialty Physicians

All physicians providing medical services to CCS applicants or clients must meet the following requirements:

- Have an active provider number/NPI (which must be registered with DHCS)

NOTE

RHC and FQHC physicians providing services in the RHC and FQHC are exempt from this requirement.

- Be licensed as a physician and surgeon by the Medical Board of California or by the Osteopathic Medical Board of California
- Be certified by the American Board of Medical Specialties

NOTE

Physicians who are not board certified, but who are board eligible by training and experience for the certifying examination, may participate in the CCS program for no more than three years.

Family Practice Physicians

Family practice physician paneling for the CCS program requires applicants to meet the following requirements:

- Be currently licensed as a physician by the California Board of Medical Quality Assurance
- Be certified by the American Board of Family Practice
- Be approved for participation in the Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) program. CHDP provider enrollment information is available on the following DHCS web page (<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/chdp/Pages/BecomingaCHDPPProvider.aspx>).

NOTE

Providers not working for a CHDP-approved facility must have documented experience treating children with CCS-eligible medical conditions for at least five years, or have treated 100 or more such children.

Podiatrists

Podiatrists must be licensed to practice podiatric medicine by the California Board of Podiatric Medicine, be certified by the American Board of Podiatric Surgery or the American Board of Podiatric Orthopedics, and have documented experience treating children with CCS-eligible medical conditions for at least five years, or have treated 100 or more such children.

Allied Health Provider Paneling Application

The *Individual Provider Paneling Application for Allied Health Care Professionals* can be found at:

(www.dhcs.ca.gov/formsandpubs/forms/Forms/ChildMedSvcForms/dhcs4515.pdf)

Or on the CMS Website: (<https://cmsprovider.cahwnet.gov/PANEL/index.jsp>)

Allied Health Provider Paneling Requirements

Provider requirements for each allied health care profession are listed as follows:

Audiologists

Audiologists must be licensed by the California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board and have two years of clinical experience providing audiology services, one of which must have been with infants, children and adolescents. The experience may include the clinical fellowship year.

Dietitians

Dietitians must be registered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration of the American Dietetic Association and have at least two years, or equivalent of full-time clinical nutrition therapy experience as part of a multidisciplinary team providing nutrition assessment and counseling for acute or chronically ill patients.

Dietitians applying to participate in the CCS program must have one of the required years of clinical experience providing services to infants, children and adolescents with CCS-eligible medical conditions.

Occupational Therapists

Occupational therapists must be graduates of an occupational therapy curriculum that is accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association, the World Federation of Occupational Therapy, or another nationally recognized accrediting agency, be certified by the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy, and have at least one year of experience (beyond internship) providing occupational therapy to infants, children and adolescents who have CCS-eligible medical conditions. Internship means that the fieldwork was performed following the completion of curriculum.

Orthotists and Prosthetists

Orthotists must be certified by the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics or the Board for Orthotist/Prosthetist Certification. Prosthetists must be certified by the American Board for Certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics or the Board for Orthotist/Prosthetist Certification.

An orthotist's or prosthetist's application must include a letter from a CCS-paneled physician specializing in physical medicine and rehabilitation orthopedics that documents the orthotist's and/or prosthetist's experience in providing services to infants, children or adolescents with CCS-eligible medical conditions.

Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

Participation in the CCS program as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP) is limited to serving as a designated core team member of a Special Care Center (SCC) providing services to children with CCS-eligible medical conditions.

Participating PNPs must meet all of the following requirements:

- Be certified as a nurse practitioner by the California Board of Registered Nurses
- Be certified as a PNP by the National Certification Board of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners and Nurses, or the American Nurses Association
- Have a minimum of two years of experience as a PNP, which includes providing services to children with CCS-eligible medical conditions

NOTE

The required experience may be obtained prior to being certified as a PNP. In these cases, the individual must have been a designated registered nurse core team member of an SCC providing care to children with CCS-eligible medical conditions for a minimum of two years.

Physical Therapists

Physical therapists must be licensed as such by the Physical Therapy Board of California and must have one year of experience (beyond internship) providing physical therapy to infants, children and adolescents with CCS-eligible medical conditions. Internship means that the fieldwork was performed following the completion of curriculum.

Psychologists

Psychologists must be licensed by the California Board of Psychology, or credentialed by the California State Board of Education or Commission on Teacher Credentialing and have a minimum of two years of clinical experience in which at least 50 percent of the individual's time has been spent counseling or testing children who have mental disorders, developmental disabilities or CCS-eligible medical conditions.

Registered Nurses

Registered nurses must be licensed by the California Board of Registered Nursing, be a designated core team member of an SCC providing care to children with CCS-eligible medical conditions and meet the following requirements:

- A minimum preparation of a baccalaureate degree in nursing from a program having requirements equal to or greater than a baccalaureate level nursing program approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing
- A minimum of two years of clinical nursing experience of which one year must be in pediatrics, unless the outpatient clinic had a separate adult program only, in which case the pediatric requirement may be waived
- Responsibilities in an outpatient clinic that include, but are not limited to, nursing assessment and intervention; coordination of patient's care between hospitalizations, outpatient services and community agencies; and participation in team conferences, quality improvement programs and in-service programs

Respiratory Care Practitioners

Participation in the CCS program as a respiratory care practitioner (RCP) shall be limited to serving as a designated core team member of an SCC providing services to children with CCS-eligible medical conditions. An RCP may also be referred to as a respiratory therapist or inhalation therapist.

An RCP must meet all of the following requirements:

- Be licensed by the Respiratory Care Board of California
- Have a current registered respiratory therapist credential issued by the National Board for Respiratory Care
- Have a minimum of two years of respiratory care experience, of which one year is in pediatrics
- Currently be a designated core team member of an SCC in a CCS-approved hospital and have responsibilities in the outpatient clinic that include individualized diagnostic and therapeutic respiratory care procedures, and patient education related to the implementation of the team care plan for outpatient services

Social Workers

Social workers must be licensed as a clinical social worker by the California Board of Behavioral Science Examiners or have a master's degree in social work from a school accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and have at least 7,500 hours or five years of full-time social work experience.

NOTE

Individuals who do not meet these requirements may be reviewed for CCS paneling by writing a letter containing the following information:

- Supervision received will be provided by a social worker who meets CCS standards.
- The level of supervision received will be a minimum of weekly supervision for applicants with less than two years of experience, or a minimum of monthly supervision for applicants with more than two years of experience. The letter must be signed by the applicant's supervisor or social work department director and attached to the application.

Speech-Language Pathologists

Speech-language pathologists must be licensed by the California Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board and have two years of clinical experience providing speech-language pathology services, one year of which must have been with infants, children and adolescents with CCS-eligible medical conditions. The required experience may include the clinical fellowship year.

Web-Based CCS Paneling Application Submission

Providers who are required to be CCS-paneled may submit their paneling application online at: (<https://cmsprovider.cahwnet.gov/PANEL/index.jsp>)

Providers have the ability to check their application status online with a unique tracking number. This online process allows Physician and Allied Health paneling applications to be handled in a thorough and timely manner. In addition, providers receive an immediate online approval, or a request for any additional documentation necessary to process their paneling applications.

For questions related to CCS paneling, please contact the Provider Services Unit at (916) 322-8702.

CCS-Approved Hospital and Special Care Center Approval

The CCS program approves and assigns various types of approval levels to hospitals, based on CCS standards and requirements. Hospital approval levels and CCS standards and requirements can be found on the CCS website

(www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ccs/Pages/ProviderStandards.aspx).

Type of Hospital	Description
Tertiary Hospital	A CCS-approved Tertiary Hospital is a referral hospital providing comprehensive, multidisciplinary, regionalized pediatric care to children from birth up to 21 years of age. The length of stay is for a period that may exceed 21 days. This approval covers teaching hospitals, children's and university hospitals, as well as their major affiliates with approved residency programs in pediatrics and all other major specialties.
Pediatric Community Hospital	A CCS-approved Pediatric Community Hospital is a community-based hospital with licensed pediatric beds that provide services for children from birth up to 21 years of age. The length of stay in this level of CCS-approved hospital must not exceed 21 days, with the exception of care provided in a CCS-approved community or Intermediate Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).
General Community Hospital	A CCS-approved General Community Hospital is a community-based hospital without licensed pediatric beds in which care may be provided only for adolescents 14 years of age up to 21 years of age. The length of stay shall not exceed 21 days, with the exception of care provided in a CCS-approved community or intermediate NICU.
Special Hospital	A CCS-approved Special Hospital is a hospital licensed as an acute care hospital that meets one of the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licensed perinatal unit/service and Intensive Care Newborn Nursery (ICNN) service and meets the CCS NICU standards as a community NICU or an intermediate NICU Licensed under special permit for rehabilitation services and meets CCS standards as a rehabilitation facility Hospital provides services in a specialized area of medical care and acts as a regional referral center for specialized type of care, such as eye or ear surgery, or burn center
Limited Hospital	A Limited Hospital is a hospital in a rural area where there are no community or tertiary inpatient hospital services available. These hospitals, which do not have licensed pediatric beds, are capable of providing limited services to children and adolescents for acute short-term conditions for which the expected length of stay shall not exceed five days.

Special Care Centers

Special Care Centers (SCCs) provide comprehensive, coordinated health care organized around a specific condition or system. SCCs are comprised of multi-disciplinary, multi-specialty providers who evaluate a client's medical condition and develop a family-centered health care plan to facilitate the provision of timely, coordinated treatment.

Information about CCS SCCs and standards can be found on the CCS "Provider Standards" page of the DHCS website:

(<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ccs/Pages/providerstandards.aspx>).

Information about GHPP SCCs and standards can be found on the GHPP "Special Care Centers" page of the DHCS website:

(<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ghpp/Pages/SpecialCareCenters.aspx>).

List of Approved CCS Providers

A searchable list of approved hospitals, prosthetic/orthotic facilities, allied health professionals and paneled providers can be found on the "CCS Provider Lists" page of the DHCS website: (<http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ccs/Pages/CCSProviders.aspx>)

- "Approved Hospital" means a facility which has been determined by the CCS program to meet the requirements to render services to a CCS applicant or client.
- "Approved Prosthetic/Orthotic Facility" means a facility which has been determined by the CCS program to meet the requirements to render services to a CCS applicant or client.
- "Paneled Non-PMF Provider" refers to a provide required to be paneled but not required to obtain a Medi-Cal provider number.
- "Paneled Provider" refers to a provider who has been determined by the CCS program to meet the advanced education, training, and/or experience requirements for his/her provider type to render services to a CCS applicant or client.

