
California Children's Services (CCS) Program Eligibility

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This section explains the specific eligibility requirements potential CCS clients must meet in order to participate in the California Children's Services (CCS) program.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet age, residence, income and medical eligibility requirements to participate in the CCS program, as follows:

Age

Birth up to 21 years of age

Residence

The parent(s) or legal guardian of the applicant, or an applicant over 18 years of age, must be a resident of a California county, and be a resident of the county in which the application is made.

Income

Income eligibility is based on the family's most recent tax year as calculated for California State income tax purposes. The family of an applicant who is not enrolled in full-scope Medi-Cal or who is not a Healthy Families (HF) Program subscriber must have an adjusted gross income of \$40,000 or less. Applicants in families with higher incomes may still be eligible for CCS services if the family's estimated out-of-pocket expenses for the applicant's CCS-eligible medical condition are expected to exceed 20 percent of the family's adjusted gross income in the year of eligibility determination or annual redetermination.

Medical

Applicants must meet one of the requirements described in this section under "Medical Eligibility Criteria."

Eligibility Period

CCS program eligibility is for a period of up to 365 days and may be less if the client's eligibility status changes. Examples of such a status change is a client moving out of California, losing Medi-Cal or HF coverage, failure to complete the CCS application process or a change in a medically eligible condition. CCS will not pay for services provided prior to the date of a client's eligibility.

Annual redetermination of eligibility for the CCS program is conducted during the first month following each 12-month period of eligibility. If a client has been and continues to be eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal, the annual redetermination will consist of verification of the client's current Medi-Cal status and the continuing presence of a CCS-eligible medical condition. If a client has been and continues to be a HF subscriber, the annual redetermination will consist of verification of the client's current HF eligibility and the continuing presence of a CCS-eligible medical condition.

Note: Recertification may be conducted prior to the annual expiration date to avoid lapsing coverage and to ensure services are reimbursed.

Benefits Identification Card (BIC)

CCS clients enrolled in the CCS program are issued a «Medi-Cal Benefits Identification Card (BIC).» Possession of a BIC is not proof of CCS eligibility because it is a permanent form of identification and is retained by the recipient even if he or she is not eligible for the current month. A BIC allows providers to determine CCS eligibility. If a CCS client also has Medi-Cal or HF eligibility, CCS eligibility will be displayed along with the Medi-Cal or HF eligibility.

Note: CCS-Only and CCS/HF Program clients residing in Los Angeles, Orange and Sacramento counties are not issued a BIC.

Children eligible for CCS will be identified by aid codes unique to the CCS program. For aid codes and associated messages, refer to the *Aid Codes Master Chart* section in the *Part 1 – Medi-Cal Program and Eligibility* provider manual.

Medical Eligibility Criteria

Medical eligibility for the CCS program, as specified in the *California Code of Regulations* (CCR), Title 22, Article 1, Sections 41811 through 41876, is determined by the CCS program medical consultant or designee through the review of medical records or other medical information that document the applicant's medical history, results of a physical examination by a physician, laboratory test results, radiologic findings, or other tests or examinations that support the diagnosis of the eligible conditions.

The following is a summary of CCS-eligible medical conditions. This summary is solely to assist providers in understanding the medical eligibility criteria of the CCS program. The summary is not an authoritative statement of, and should not be cited as, authority for any decision, determinations or interpretations of the CCS program. Please refer to the regulations cited above for a definitive description of CCS medical eligibility.

Infectious Diseases

In general, an infectious disease is a CCS-eligible medical condition when it:

- Involves the central nervous system and produces disabilities requiring surgical and/or rehabilitation services
- Involves bone
- Involves eyes and leads to blindness
- Is congenitally acquired and for which postnatal treatment is necessary and appropriate

Neoplasms

In general, a neoplasm is a CCS-eligible medical condition when it:

- Involves the central nervous system and produces disabilities requiring surgical and/or rehabilitation services
- Involves bone
- Involves eyes and leads to blindness
- Is congenitally acquired and for which postnatal treatment is necessary and appropriate

Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases and Immune Disorders

In general, endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases, and immune disorders are CCS-eligible medical conditions. Examples of these conditions are diseases of the pituitary, thyroid, parathyroid, adrenal, pancreas, ovaries and testes, growth hormone deficiency, diabetes mellitus, diseases due to congenital or acquired immunologic deficiency manifested by life-threatening complications, various inborn errors of metabolism, and cystic fibrosis.

Nutritional disorders such as failure to thrive and exogenous obesity are not CCS-eligible medical conditions.

Diseases of Blood and Blood-Forming Organs

In general, diseases of blood and blood-forming organs are CCS-eligible medical conditions. Common examples of eligible conditions are sickle-cell anemia and aplastic anemia. Iron or vitamin deficiency anemias are eligible only when life-threatening complications are present.

Mental Disorders and Mental Retardation

CCS applicants with mental disorders or mental retardation, whose application is based solely on such disorders, are not medically eligible for the CCS program.

Diseases of the Nervous System

Diseases of the nervous system are, in general, medically eligible conditions when they produce physical disability (for example, paresis, paralysis or ataxia) that significantly impair daily function.

Idiopathic epilepsy is eligible when the seizures are uncontrolled, as defined in the CCR regulations. Treatment of seizures due to underlying organic disease (for example, brain tumor, cerebral palsy or inborn errors of metabolism) is based on the eligibility of the underlying disease.

Specific conditions not medically eligible are those that are self-limiting. These include acute neuritis, neuralgia, and meningitis that does not produce sequelae or physical disability. Learning disabilities are not eligible medical conditions.

Diseases of the Eye

Strabismus is a CCS-eligible medical condition when surgery is required. Chronic infections or diseases of the eye are medically eligible when they produce visual impairment and/or require complex management or surgery.

Diseases of the Ear and Mastoid Process

Diseases of the ear and mastoid process that are medically eligible conditions include hearing loss as defined in the CCR regulations; perforation of the tympanic membrane requiring tympanoplasty; mastoiditis and cholesteatoma.

Diseases of the Circulatory System

In general, diseases of the circulatory system that are CCS-eligible medical conditions involve the heart, blood vessels, and lymphatic system.

Diseases of the Respiratory System

Lower respiratory tract conditions are medically eligible if they are chronic, cause significant disability and respiratory obstruction, or complicate the management of a CCS-eligible medical condition.

Chronic lung disease of infancy and immunologic origin are medically eligible conditions, as defined by CCR regulations.

Diseases of the Digestive System

Diseases of the liver, chronic inflammatory disease of the gastrointestinal (GI) tract, most congenital abnormalities of the GI system, and gastroesophageal reflux are medically eligible conditions, as defined by CCR regulations.

Malocclusion is medically eligible when severe impairment of occlusal function is present and is subject to CCS screening and acceptance for care.

Diseases of the Genitourinary System

Chronic genitourinary conditions and renal failure are medically eligible conditions. Acute conditions are medically eligible when complications are present.

Diseases of the Skin and Subcutaneous Tissues

Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissues are CCS-eligible medical conditions if they are disfiguring, disabling and require plastic or reconstructive surgery and/or prolonged and frequent multidisciplinary management.

Diseases of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue

Chronic diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue are medically eligible conditions. Minor orthopedic conditions such as toeing-in, knock knee and flat feet are not medically eligible. However, these conditions may be medically eligible if expensive bracing, multiple casting, and/or surgery is required.

Congenital Anomalies

Congenital anomalies of the various systems are medically eligible conditions if they limit a body function, are disabling, disfiguring, or are amenable to cure, correction or amelioration, as defined by CCR regulations.

Perinatal Morbidity

CCS authorizes services in CCS-approved Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs) for neonates who have a CCS-eligible medical condition and require NICU care because of that condition.

Critically ill neonates who do not have an identified CCS-eligible medical condition are medically eligible for CCS when they require one or more of the following services in a CCS-approved NICU:

- Invasive or non-invasive positive ventilatory assistance
- Supplemental oxygen concentration by hood of greater than or equal to 40 percent
- Maintenance of an umbilical artery (UA) or peripheral arterial catheter (PAC) for medically necessary indications, such as monitoring blood pressure or blood gases
- Maintenance of an umbilical venous catheter or other central venous catheter for medically necessary indications, such as pressure monitoring or cardiovascular drug infusion
- Maintenance of a peripheral line for intravenous pharmacological support of the cardiovascular system
- Central or peripheral hyperalimentation
- Chest tube

Neonates and infants who do not have an identified CCS-eligible medical condition are medically eligible for CCS when they require two or more of the following services in a CCS-approved NICU:

- Supplemental inspired oxygen
- Maintenance of a peripheral intravenous line for administration of intravenous fluids, blood, blood products, or medications other than those used in support of the cardiovascular system
- Pharmacological treatment for apnea and/or bradycardia episodes
- Tube feedings

Accidents, Poisonings, Pharmacological Violence and Immunization Reactions

CCS-eligible medical conditions may include:

- Injuries of the central or peripheral nervous system and vital organs if they can result in permanent disability or death
- Fractures of the skull, spine, pelvis or femur which when untreated would result in permanent loss of function or death
- Burns, foreign bodies, ingestion of drugs or poisons, lead poisoning and snake bites may be eligible

<<Legend>>

<<Symbols used in the document above are explained in the following table.>>

Symbol	Description
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