

# Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids

## What you Need to Know

### The Facts:

- Georgia has the seventh-highest childhood uninsured rate in the country.
- In 2017, an estimated 200,000 children under the age of 19 were uninsured.
- The majority of these children were eligible for either Medicaid or PeachCare Kids.

### Why is this so important?

- Coverage is important for children because it improves their access to needed services, such as well child checkups and medications, and provides better access to a usual source of care.
- Coverage is also associated with improved education outcomes and long-term health and economic gains.

### Who can apply?

- Anyone can apply for children in his or her household for whom they are legally responsible (parent/grandparent/legal custodian/legal guardian)
- Families that include immigrants can apply. You can apply for your eligible child even if you aren't eligible for coverage.

### How to Apply:

- Call the information line (877) 423-4746
- Speak with a representative at your local DFCS office
- **[www.Gateway.ga.gov](http://www.Gateway.ga.gov)** - create a Gateway account and complete the application online. Be sure to write down your login info and security question answers.
- Fill out a paper application and submit it to your local DFCS office in person, by mail, or fax. **Make sure you make a copy for yourself of any paperwork you submit to DFCS for your records.** You can print a paper application in English or Spanish at **<http://medicaid.georgia.gov/how-apply>**

### Income Limits: (Ages 6-18 years old)

#### Medicaid:

Household Size:	Income (must be less than amount listed)*
2	\$2,004
3	\$2,526
4	\$3,047

#### PeachCare for Kids:

Household Size:	Income (must be less than amount listed)*
2	\$3,659
3	\$4,612
4	\$5,565

#### Parent/Caretaker:

Household Size:	Income (must be less than amount listed)*
2	\$530
3	\$643
4	\$763

\*Income limits are higher for children under age 6 and pregnant women.

\*Parent/Caretaker – child support is not included in income.

\*2021 Monthly Gross Income; Income limits change every year.

## **What do I need to apply?**

- Social Security numbers for those applying for insurance
- Employer and income information for parents/legal guardians in your household (paystubs, W-2 forms, or wage and tax statements)
- Policy numbers for any current health insurance
- Identification (State ID or driver's license)
- Birth Certificates for those seeking coverage

**Medicaid vs. PeachCare for Kids:** The main difference between Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids is the income level. PeachCare for Kids serves working families whose income is more than that set by the Medicaid Program.

PeachCare for Kids requires a monthly premium ranging between \$11-\$72 to be paid for coverage for children 6 to 19 years old (currently waived due to COVID-19). Families must choose from four Care Management Organizations (CMO's)

Services provided by both: Doctor visits, specialists, preventive care, dental, vision, hospital, ER visits, prescriptions, and mental health care.

PeachCare for Kids does not cover non-emergency transportation and services may have co-payments that range from .50¢ to \$12.50; with most being \$2 to \$3.

**How Can GLSP Help?** Georgia Legal Services Program (GLSP) attorneys offer free civil legal services to low income clients and can:

- Explain rights and eligibility;
- Assist in communicating with DFCS;
- Assist in submitting verification documents;
- Help file an appeal; and
- Represent at fair hearings.

## **What if I'm denied? The deadline to APPEAL is 30 days from the date on the notice.**

- Fill out the Fair Hearing form included with the DFCS notice.
- Or, write a letter to DFCS asking for a FAIR HEARING.
- State that you disagree with the denial.
- Be sure to include the date and turn in your form or letter to your local DFCS office.
- **MAKE SURE THAT DFCS GIVE YOU BACK A DATE STAMPED COPY**
- Please contact GLSP with any questions or assistance with your appeal at 1-833-457-7529 or 1-833-GLSPLAW.

***You have the absolute right to request a fair hearing and DFCS cannot deny you that right. There is no penalty if you end up not being eligible.***