



Section 4000

Program Eligibility

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4100 Introduction

This section continues to use a number of acronyms that are listed in the Appendices.

CYSHCN client service eligibility is defined in the WA State Administrative codes (WAC 246-710). These policies are the foundation of the CYSHCN Program and where client service decisions start.

4200 Client Eligibility Policies

Children are eligible to receive CYSHCN services if they have: (see CYSHCN Population in Section 3000.)

- disabilities and handicapping conditions;
- chronic illnesses and conditions;
- health-related educational or behavioral problems; or
- risk of developing disabilities, chronic conditions, and health-related educational and behavioral problems.

4300 Age Eligibility Policies

1. Children 17 years of age or younger are eligible for CYSHCN services.
2. Some diagnostic and treatment services may be considered for **established** CYSHCN clients who are 18 to 21 years of age, provided:
 - the service was previously planned as a continued stage of treatment required to achieve goals;
 - such treatment was initiated before the client became 18;
 - the treatment has a definable treatment course and termination point; and
 - such services will not be authorized after a client's 21st birthday.

4400 Residency Policies

1. Families who intend to establish residency in WA State are eligible for CYSHCN services. The length of residency in the state is not a factor in determining eligibility. Visitors who come to the state only for medical services are not considered residents.
2. Members of the military and their dependents are considered WA State residents when they live in WA. CYSHCN diagnostic and treatment funds cannot be used to pay for services for dependents of active duty military personnel who claim WA as "home," but are stationed and live outside of the state.

4500 Financial Eligibility Policies

1. Financial eligibility must be established before services are funded from diagnostic and treatment (DX/TX) allocations. Medicaid eligibility, with or without premiums, is an appropriate way to determine financial eligibility. Additionally, you can use a financial means test based on federal poverty levels. Section 5000 contains policies and procedures for determining financial eligibility.
2. The current level of financial eligibility for CYSHCN is at or below 210% of the federal poverty level.

Clients for whom current eligibility has been approved by the Health Care Authority (Medicaid) will be considered financially eligible for CYSHCN funding of DX/TX services.

Note: Children eligible for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) in the Health Care Authority, where financial eligibility is above 210% of the federal poverty level, are not eligible for services paid from CYSHCN diagnosis and treatment funds. This is represented as Medicaid with premiums. Refer to Section 6113 Determination of Financial Eligibility for Medicaid. Financial eligibility does not constitute entitlement to CYSHCN DX/TX funds. Local agencies will make decisions to use CYSHCN DX/TX funds in accordance with policies in Section 4600.

When a family's income exceeds CYSHCN financial eligibility guidelines approval can be given for one diagnostic visit within the limits of funds available to each local agency and under the following circumstances:

- Delay in diagnosis could result in deterioration of presumed or suspected condition;
- There are no other resources; and
- The child will not get the service any other way.
- The LHJ has made a decision to serve all children through different revenue streams.

4600 Service Eligibility Policies

1. All CYSHCN clients regardless of income are eligible for local services as described in Section 3000.
2. Local agencies will make decisions to use CYSHCN DX/TX funds to pay for services such as medical or surgical treatment, therapy, and equipment, based on availability of insurance or other public or private third party funding sources, availability of CYSHCN funds, and the criteria listed below.
3. Local CYSHCN agencies may approve payment from DX/TX funds for children who are financially eligible if the following criteria are met:
 - The child has or is at increased risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition and also requires health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally;
 - The child's condition is amenable to treatment;
 - The expected treatment outcome would alleviate, reduce, or prevent handicap or disability;
 - The service is medically appropriate and medically necessary;
 - The service is recognized as an acceptable form of treatment for the condition by a significant portion of the professional community (i.e., is not experimental and is not beyond what is generally considered medically necessary);
 - The prescribed treatment is the least invasive and promotes the best outcome based on generally accepted standards of practice; and
 - Without treatment, there is likely to be a greater functional disability.

4700 Service Provider Policies

Providers paid from CYSHCN DX/TX funds must meet the qualifications stated below.

Physicians are required to:

- Be licensed to practice medicine in the state where they practice, and

- Have certification under the appropriate American specialty board, or
- Have board certification eligibility as designated by the appropriate specialty board.

Non-physician providers are required to be:

- Licensed or certified in WA or in the state where they practice; or
- Accredited by the appropriate national professional organization when there is no required state licensure or certification process.

Hospitals providing CYSHCN sponsored services are required to:

- Be approved by the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Hospitals, and
- Be licensed by the state where the hospital is located.

4800 Procedures

<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Action</i>
CYSHCN Program	Determines policy with local CYSHCN agencies to clarify WAC requirements.
Local agency	<p>Makes ongoing program eligibility decisions for children with special health care needs in accordance with CYSHCN policies and contract responsibilities.</p> <p>Licensing or the law relating to health professionals can be verified by contacting the Department of Health:</p> <p>Department of Health Health Systems Quality Assurance (111 Israel Road SE, Tumwater, WA) Post Office Box 47860 Olympia WA 98504-7860 (360) 236-4700</p> <p>Or by looking up the provider at: http://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/ProviderCredentialSearch</p>