

County Oversight & Support

This section specifically focuses on the “front door” of Ohio’s Medicaid program which is currently the 88 local county departments of job and family services. In order for Ohioans to qualify, they must meet Medicaid eligibility criteria. The County Oversight and Support Section currently includes five units which are responsible for:

- the overall development of Medicaid eligibility policy;
- overseeing the implementation of federally mandated programs related to children and pregnant women;
- assuring information technology systems support Medicaid policy.
- providing technical assistance to the counties; and
- ensuring compliance with established policies.

The information below provides a brief description of each unit within this section.

Eligibility Policy

Eligibility Policy is responsible for expanding on the Ohio Revised Code by writing Medicaid’s eligibility rules. This process begins with research, two stages of input from interested stakeholders and then the general public, and ends with a formal proposal. Eligibility policy is also responsible for sending the changes to the federal government as well as the county departments of job and family services.

Related information:

Ohio Revised Code and Ohio Administrative Code: The laws on which Medicaid rules are based.

Medicaid Eligibility Manual: An all-encompassing rule manual regarding Medicaid eligibility that is used by county caseworkers and OHP staff.

Healthchek & Pregnancy Related Services (PRS) Unit

The Healthchek and Pregnancy Related Services (PRS) unit is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Healthchek and PRS rules (5101:1-38-05 and 5101:1-38-06). Healthchek & PRS are federally mandated programs which emphasize the importance of obtaining preventive care services for children (birth through age 21) and pregnant women to assure healthy outcomes.

Each local county department of job and family services has a Healthchek/PRS coordinator to assist families with obtaining the health care they need. The unit supports county coordinators by maintaining an e-mail mailbox to provide technical assistance on a daily basis. Additionally, the unit conducts training annually through regional sessions, hosts bi-monthly video conferences, and conducts further training and technical assistance by county request. The unit is also responsible for submitting annual participation data for federal reports and collaborating with sister agencies over various children and maternal health initiatives.

Related Information:

[Healthchek on the Web](#): Information about Healthchek. View the Healthchek Brochure in English and in Spanish.

[Healthchek/PRS coordinators](#): Contact information for Healthcheck and PRS coordinators by county

County Technical Assistance

County Technical Assistance is responsible for communicating with county offices regarding Medicaid eligibility. The unit provides regional hands-on training and targeted training at the

county level. When a new policy is developed, County Technical Assistance staff will review it to anticipate questions from caseworkers about the policy's practical application. County offices can also contact County Technical Assistance if they have questions or comments about a policy. The unit is one of many links county offices have to the State office.

Project Management

Project Management is responsible for ensuring the information technology used in the Medicaid eligibility determination process reflects Medicaid eligibility policy and rules changes. The project manager coordinates and translates the policy changes and implementation needs so changes can be made in the consumer information systems.

County Compliance

County Compliance works with county offices to ensure each office understands how to apply Medicaid eligibility rules. This is done with on-site reviews of cases, a computerized statistical database and comparing plan management descriptions with actual plan implementation. County Compliance also publishes a newsletter, *Medicaid Matters*, to help caseworkers spot problems, remind them of rules and offer tips for evaluating cases.