

Healthchek Services Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q. What is Healthchek?

A. Healthchek is Ohio Medicaid's health program for children under age 21. Federal law calls this program EPSDT (Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment). The purpose of Healthchek is to find and treat health problems early, so that your child can have the best health and development possible. Healthchek covers health screenings (including well-child check-ups) to diagnose any health problems your child might have. It also covers medical and dental treatments and equipment that may be determined as medically necessary to treat your child.

Q. Is Healthchek different from Medicaid?

A. Healthchek is a part of Medicaid that covers health care services for children under the age of 21. Under Healthchek, your child can receive medically necessary services or equipment that would be covered by federal Medicaid whether or not the service is covered by Ohio's Medicaid plan for adults. Also, your child can get more of a certain service than would be provided to adults. For example, your child could get more physical therapy than an adult would get if the added therapy is medically necessary for your child. Children also can get more dental care than adults.

Q. Do I have to fill out an extra application for my child to receive Healthchek services?

A. No. Once your child is enrolled in Ohio's Medicaid program, your child can receive Healthchek services. Ask your Healthchek Coordinator at your County Department of Job and Family Services' (CDJFS) for more information about Healthchek services. A list of county Healthchek Coordinators can be found at <http://www.jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/consumers/docs/CountyCoordinators.pdf>.

Q. How many Healthchek exams are covered?

A. Healthchek covers 11 check-ups throughout the first two years of life, then one check-up each year until your child turns 21. It is important to take your child to all of the covered check-ups to ensure your child's health and normal development. If a health problem is found, more exams and services are covered when necessary to diagnose and treat the problem.

Q. What happens during a Healthchek exam?

A. Healthchek screenings (exams) are complete physical examinations that include:

- Medical history
- Complete unclothed exam (with parent approval)
- Developmental screening (to see if your child's physical and mental abilities are as expected for his or her age)
- Vision screening

- Hearing assessment
- Dental screening
- Immunizations (to make sure your child receives shots on time)
- Lead screening
- Other screenings and services as needed

Healthchek exams are based on the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) children's health recommendations. If a health problem is found, your doctor can treat the problem, do more examinations or refer you to a specialist for treatment.

Q. What kind of services can my child get through Healthchek?

A. In addition to the screening services, your child can get medically necessary services or equipment that your child's Medicaid provider recommends. Some services must be approved by Ohio Medicaid or the Managed Care Plan your child is enrolled in. Examples of available services or equipment include:

- Physician and clinic services
- Inpatient and outpatient hospital services
- Laboratory and x-ray services
- Home health services and private duty nursing services
- Personal care services
- Care coordination or Case management services
- Physical therapy and related services
- Any medical care or other type of remedial care (example: occupational therapy) recognized under state law
- Other diagnostic, screening and rehabilitative services recommended by a licensed Medicaid provider
- Durable medical equipment
- Dental services
- Certified pediatric nurse practitioner services

- Nursing facilities, intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded and inpatient psychiatric hospitals
- Respiratory care services

Q. What happens if a health problem is found?

A. Your child's doctor can treat the problem or can make a referral to a specialist for further evaluation and treatment. Any Medicaid provider can find a problem, make a referral or provide treatment. This includes: doctors, nurses, dentists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, psychologists, psychiatrists and other health care professionals.

Q. What does medically necessary mean?

A. Healthchek covers medically necessary Medicaid services that are needed to correct or improve health conditions, including physical and mental illnesses in children. Healthchek services cover children who are developing normally and children who have special conditions or disabilities that require medical attention. Your health care provider and the Medicaid program determine what services are medically necessary for your child based on his or her health and needs.

Q. What should I do if the doctor says my child needs a medically necessary service that has to be approved by Medicaid or my child's managed care plan?

A. If you are enrolled in a Medicaid managed care plan, your provider should contact the plan's prior authorization department and make the request. Each plan has its own process for approving requests for services. If you are not enrolled in a Medicaid managed care plan, your Medicaid providers can make a request for the service. Your health care professional will submit all the necessary supporting paperwork (example: treatment plans, progress notes, assessments), asking that the requested service receive prior authorization for coverage.

Q. What if a request for approval by Medicaid or my child's managed care plan is denied?

A. You will receive notification by mail if the service your doctor recommends (and your child needs) is denied by Medicaid. If you disagree with the denial, you may ask for a hearing. You must ask for a hearing within 90 days from the date of the notice. This document should tell you exactly how to ask for the hearing. A hearing will be scheduled and a hearing officer will listen to you and Ohio Medicaid, then will decide whether or not the denial was correct.

Q. I need help finding a doctor who will accept Medicaid. What should I do?

A. First, find out if you are on a Medicaid managed care plan. If you are enrolled in a managed care plan, contact the plan or visit its Web site for further information. If you are not covered by a managed care plan, then contact your county [Healthchek Coordinator](#). They will assist you by giving you a list of available Medicaid providers' names, addresses and phone numbers within your county

and in surrounding counties. You may also call the Ohio Medicaid **Consumer Hotline** at **1-800-324-8680** for help.

Q. I need help scheduling medical appointments and getting to the appointments. What should I do?

A. Healthcek provides help with scheduling and transporting your child to medical appointments. If you are enrolled in a managed care plan you may contact them for help, or contact your county and ask for the [Healthcek Coordinator](#) for further help.

Q. I am moving to another county in Ohio. What should I do to make sure my child's Healthcek services will continue?

A. Once you have relocated, you are required to report changes within 10 days to your county case worker to let them know that you have moved. They will transfer your case to your new county of residence. Your county Healthcek Coordinator can tell you who the Healthcek Coordinator is in your new county and can help you in contacting them. A list of county Healthcek Coordinators can be found at <http://www.jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/consumers/docs/CountyCoordinators.pdf>

Q. How can I find out more information about Healthcek?

A. You can find more information about Healthcek by doing one of the following:

1. Call your county and ask for the Healthcek Coordinator. This person can provide you with information on Healthcek services. A list of county Healthcek Coordinators can be found at <http://www.jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/consumers/docs/CountyCoordinators.pdf>.
2. Call Ohio Medicaid's Consumer Hotline at **1-800-324-8680** and speak with a customer service representative for further assistance.
3. Call your Medicaid Managed Care Plan's customer service number for more information. The phone number should be located on your child's Managed Care Plan's insurance card.
4. Visit Ohio Medicaid's Office of Ohio Health Plan's [Healthcek Web page](#) <http://www.jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/consumers/Healthcek.stm> for further details.