

# Medically Complex Children Waiver

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June 2016

# Medically Complex Children (MCC) Waiver

# Purpose

- The Medicaid MCC waiver is a statewide program serving medically complex children from birth to age 18. Children must meet institutional level of care, have both chronic physical and health conditions that are expected to last longer than 12 months, and meet medical criteria which determines the child needs comprehensive medical, nursing, health supervision or intervention.
- The MCC waiver currently serves 795 children, and is administered and operated by SCDHHS.

# Services

The services approved for this waiver include:

- Care Coordination
- Respite Care
- Pediatric Medical Day Care

# Proposed Renewal Changes

- Revise the Medicaid ICF/IID level of care criteria to clarify the developmental period is manifested before age 22 (from 18).
- Address the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) final rule setting requirements for home and community-based services received in a Pediatric Medical Day Care setting.
- Per Legislation, revise the waiver entrance requirements to allow eligible family members of a member of the armed services to retain their status in the waiver or on the processing list.
- Revise the waiver performance measures to enhance quality assurance outcomes.

# Eligibility

The child must be:

- A resident of South Carolina
- Medicaid eligible
- Under the age of 18
- Meet Level of Care
- Meet Medical Criteria

# Priority Categories

Priority is given to children:

- Being discharged from the hospital
- Requiring private duty nursing (PDN) services
- Served by the DSS foster care program
- With an eligible family member of the Armed Services who maintains a South Carolina residence

# Approved Waiver Services: Care Coordination

- Services to assist participants in facilitating access to health services; promoting continuity of care; improving health, developmental, psychosocial and functional outcomes; maximizing efficient and effective use of resources; gaining access to skilled medical monitoring, and intervention to maintain the participant through home support.



# Approved Waiver Services: Respite Care

- Services provided to participants unable to care for themselves and furnished on a short-term basis because of the absence or need for relief of those persons who normally provide care for the participant.
  - Skilled respite services will be offered to those children needing skilled care under signed physician orders.
  - Unskilled respite services will be offered to those children with only unskilled care needs.

# Approved Waiver Services: Pediatric Medical Day Care

- Services furnished on an hourly basis, in a licensed non-institutional, community-based setting, encompassing both health and social services needed to ensure the optimal functioning of the participant. Meals provided as a part of these services shall not constitute a full nutritional regiment (3 meals per day). This service is for children 0-18 years of age.

# Conditions of Waiver Participation

The waiver requires:

- Monthly contact with a registered nurse (RN) care coordinator by phone or in-person
- Quarterly visits in the home with the child and primary caregiver present

# HCBS Final Rule: Overview

- CMS promulgated the HCBS rule on Jan. 16, 2014, with an effective date of March 17, 2014.
  - All states must be in compliance with the HCBS rule by **March 17, 2019.**
- Two areas of focus:
  - Person-centered service planning
    - Process
    - Plan requirements
    - Review
  - Home and community-based settings requirements
    - Settings characteristics

# HCBS: Transition Plan

- Requirement of CMS with new home and community-based services (HCBS) final rule
- Aligned with the statewide transition plan submitted for all South Carolina waiver programs
  - Describes assessment of system specific to MCC
  - Describes assessment of settings specific to MCC
  - Describes compliance actions
  - Describes public input process

# How to Make a Referral

- Referrals can be submitted electronically at:  
[https://phoenix.scdhhs.gov/cltc\\_referrals/new](https://phoenix.scdhhs.gov/cltc_referrals/new)

# MCC Waiver Contact Information

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