

South Carolina Healthy Connections Medicaid

KATIE BECKETT/TEFRA ELIGIBILITY CATEGORY

Healthy Connections provides benefits to certain children with disabilities who would not ordinarily be eligible because their parents' income and/or resources exceed the limit.

In 1981, the federal government created the Katie Beckett waiver, named after the child who inspired it, which allowed children to receive institutional care at home while retaining their Medicaid coverage, regardless of parents' income. In 1982, the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) expanded the waiver.



Eligibility

To qualify for Medicaid under TEFRA, the child must:

- Be age 18 or under.
- Be a U.S. citizen or a lawful permanent resident alien.
- Be a resident of South Carolina.
- Live at home.
- Meet the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) definition of disability.
- As of Jan. 1, 2026, have a gross monthly income below \$2,982 and countable resources at or below \$2,000 (only the child's income and resources are counted).
- Meet an institutional level of care. The three levels of care are:
 - Intermediate care for the intellectually disabled (ICF-IID)
 - Nursing facility (skilled or intermediate care)
 - Hospital care

Benefits

Individuals who are eligible will receive all Medicaid covered services. Under the Medicaid State Plan, individuals may choose a managed care plan upon enrollment or opt out of managed care.¹

More Information



Visit www.scdhhs.gov. Go to the "Members" page. Click on "Program Eligibility and Income Limits."



Call the Healthy Connections Member Contact Center at (888) 549-0820. It is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

¹SCDHHS must provide public notice of any significant proposed change to the State Plan. Any changes will be shared with Medicaid members, providers and other partners and stakeholders before they occur. Healthy Connections Medicaid uses many ways to communicate information about changes to our program including our website, bulletins, member emails, social media and more.