

Katie Beckett Medicaid

Frequently Asked Questions

Overview

What is Katie Beckett Medicaid?

Katie Beckett Medicaid provides Wisconsin Medicaid coverage to children living at home who have disabilities, chronic illness, or mental health needs to the point of meeting special eligibility requirements. A child can qualify even if:

- Their parents have too much income or assets to qualify for other kinds of Medicaid.
- They have private health insurance.

Learn more at dhs.wi.gov/kbp.

Who was Katie Beckett?

Katie Beckett was a child with complex health care needs. Her family advocated that the best treatments and services for her were available at home and in a community setting, not in an institution or hospital. The federal government created a special group of Medicaid coverage for kids like Katie Beckett.

Who can get Katie Beckett Medicaid?

To be eligible, your child must:

- Be under age 19
- Meet the definition of “disabled” under the Social Security Act.
- Be a U.S. citizen or qualifying immigrant.
- Be a Wisconsin resident.
- Live at home, in a foster care setting, or in another eligible community-based setting.
- Meet “functional level of care” eligibility – which means the child requires the kind of care typically provided by a hospital or long-term care facility.
- Receive safe and appropriate care at home.
- Not have income in their name that is more than the current income limit for those living in an institution.
- Not receive care at home that costs more than the care they would receive in a long-term care facility covered by Medicaid.



Applying

What is the application process?

You can apply for Katie Beckett Medicaid for your child one of three ways:

- Online at access.wi.gov
- By calling **888-786-3246**
- By emailing DHSKatieBeckett@dhs.wisconsin.gov

The application process determines if a child is eligible for Katie Beckett Medicaid. To qualify, a child must meet a certain functional level of care. They must also be disabled as defined by the Social Security Administration. Katie Beckett Medicaid eligibility specialists answer questions and provide support through the application process. Here's how it works.

Application

An eligibility specialist will meet with you on a video call, or in your home if requested. Together, you'll review the application, verify required documents, and answer questions.

Functional eligibility

The eligibility specialist will use that information to complete your child's functional screen. This standardized tool measures their abilities and day-to-day functions.

Disability determination

You'll help the eligibility specialist get access to your child's medical records. They are reviewed along with the application details to make a disability determination.

Notification

You'll get a letter letting you know if your child is approved for benefits. If not, the letter will include information about how to appeal this decision if you disagree.

If you have questions about the application process or a decision letter, email Katie Beckett Medicaid at DHSKatieBeckett@dhs.wisconsin.gov or call **866-786-3246**.

Use benefits

How does my child access Katie Beckett Medicaid benefits?

- After approval, you will get a ForwardHealth Medicaid ID card in the mail. Use it like any other insurance card to get health services and equipment. This includes things like preventative health care, supports, and specialty care.
- Keep your ForwardHealth card unless you are sent a new one. If you need a replacement, call Member Services at **800-362-3002**.

Where can I find more information about using Katie Beckett Medicaid coverage?

These two resources can help:

- ForwardHealth Benefits and Enrollment Handbook, P-00079, available at dhs.wi.gov/library/collection/p-00079.
- Medicaid and Children's Services Program Benefits Overview, P-02996, available at dhs.wi.gov/library/collection/p-02996.

Billing and payments

What if my child is also covered by private insurance?

- Katie Beckett Medicaid can work together with private insurance. It will act as a secondary insurance, but only if the provider is a certified Wisconsin Medicaid provider.
- If your child has private health insurance, they will be billed first. Medicaid always pays last.
- You must use in-network health care providers and facilities if your child's private health insurance is through an HMO (health maintenance organization).
- Always ask your provider about what is covered.



What doctors or health care providers can my child see?

Your child must see providers who accept Wisconsin fee-for-service Medicaid (also called ForwardHealth providers)

- You can find individual providers by searching the ForwardHealth Find Care directory. Go to forwardhealth.wi.gov/WIPortal/Subsystem/Public/DirectorySearch.aspx.
- Always ask your child's provider if they are a certified Wisconsin Medicaid provider who accepts fee-for-service Medicaid.

Keep in mind:

- If your child sees a provider who is not Medicaid certified, you are responsible for payments.
- Many out-of-state providers near Wisconsin's borders are Wisconsin Medicaid certified. Ask your provider if they are certified or call Member Services at **800-362-3002** to confirm.

Keep your coverage

How often do I have to renew my child's Katie Beckett Medicaid coverage?

- Each year, we must review the information we have on file to see if your child can keep getting benefits. You will get renewal information in the mail with instructions and your due date.
- If you do not complete the renewal by the due date, your child may lose Medicaid coverage.
- Every child enrolled in Katie Beckett also requires a disability redetermination every 1-7 years depending on their medical diagnosis.
- Learn more about renewals in the Katie Beckett Medicaid Renewal Flyer for Members, P-03553. Download it at dhs.wi.gov/library/collection/p-03553.

What am I required to report to Katie Beckett Medicaid?

We need up-to-date information to contact you about your child's benefits. Let us know about:

- Changes to your address or telephone number
- A change in insurance or income



Get help

What if I have questions about the Katie Beckett Medicaid application process or eligibility criteria?

- Call: **888-786-3246**
- Email: DHSKatieBeckett@wisconsin.gov

How else can my family get help?

- Wisconsin Wayfinder supports families of children with delays, disabilities, special health care needs, and mental health conditions in finding resources. Call (877) WiscWay (**877-947-2929**) or visit dhs.wi.gov/wiscway.
- You can also refer to this helpful fact sheet, Resources for families in Children's Services Programs, P-03036. Download it at dhs.wi.gov/library/collection/p-03036.