

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren: Health Care Assistance¹

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Goal: To provide information about health care assistance to grandfamilies who are residents in the state of Florida.

You have many options for health care coverage. These options include private insurance, Medicaid, Florida KidCare, and the Child Health Check-up Program. Private insurance is the most expensive option.

MEDICAID

Medicaid provides health care coverage to families or individuals with low incomes. You may apply for Medicaid insurance for the whole family or just for your grandchildren. Medicaid covers medical, mental health, and dental services. If your grandchildren qualify for Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA), Relative Caregiver Program, or Supplemental Security Income (SSI), they automatically qualify for Medicaid. However, you will still need to file an application for Medicaid coverage separately.

To learn more, or to apply for assistance, call Access Florida at 1-866-762-2237 or visit <http://www.myflorida.com/accessflorida/>.

FLORIDA KIDCARE

Florida KidCare has four different health programs for children.

1. **KidCare Medicaid:** This is a program for children from birth through age 18. To qualify, you must complete an application. Eligibility for this program is based on income.
2. **MediKids:** This is a program for children

ages 1–4 who are not eligible for Medicaid. There is a \$15–20 monthly premium per child.

3. **Florida Healthy Kids:** This program provides an all-round health insurance plan for school-age children (ages 5–18). Most families pay a \$15–20 monthly premium per child. If you earn more than the maximum allowable income, you may purchase this coverage at the full price. This program *does not* enroll children throughout the year. You must enroll during an "open enrollment period."
4. **Children's Medical Services Network (CMS Network):** This is a health plan for children with special on-going health care needs. These include diabetes, leukemia, and behavioral health problems. It is for children under age 19 and provides medical services, supplies, therapies, and equipment. There is usually a \$15–20 monthly premium per child for this program.

For more information on Florida KidCare programs, call Florida KidCare at 1-888-540-5437 or visit <http://floridakidcare.org>.

CHILD HEALTH CHECK-UP PROGRAM

Grandchildren who qualify for Medicaid will also qualify for the Child Health Check-up Program. This program provides children with regular, comprehensive, health check-ups including comprehensive physical exams; nutritional and developmental assessments; vision, hearing and dental screenings; lab tests; immunizations; and health education guidance.

For more information on Child Health Check-ups, call your local health insurance provider, Medicaid office, or *Access Florida* at 1-866-762-2237.

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