

THE KATIE BECKETT PROGRAM – WISCONSIN MEDICAID FACT SHEET

Wisconsin Medicaid coverage for children living at home who have substantial limitations in multiple daily activities as a result of one or more of the following long-term disabilities:

- Developmental disabilities,
- Severe emotional disturbances, or
- Physical disabilities/chronic medical illnesses

Purpose of the Program

The Katie Beckett Program is a special eligibility process that allows certain children with long-term disabilities, mental illness, or complex medical needs, living at home with their families, to obtain a Wisconsin ForwardHealth Medicaid card. Children, who are not eligible for other Medicaid programs because the income or assets of their parents are too high, may be eligible for Medicaid through the Katie Beckett Program. A child may be eligible for this source of Medicaid even if they are currently covered under a private health insurance policy.

Eligibility Criteria

In order to be eligible for Wisconsin Medicaid through the Katie Beckett Program, a child must meet ALL of the following criteria:

1. Be under 19 years of age;
2. Be disabled by standards in the Social Security Act;
3. Be a United States citizen or have acceptable immigration status;
4. Be a Wisconsin resident;
5. Live at home with their family;
6. Require a level of care at home that is typically provided in a hospital or nursing facility;
7. Be provided safe and appropriate care in the family home;
8. Not have income in their name in excess of the current standards for a child living in an institution; and
9. Not incur a cost of care at home to the Wisconsin Medicaid Program that exceeds the cost Medicaid would pay if the child were in an institution.

Program Benefits

If the child meets the Katie Beckett Program eligibility criteria, which is determined through the application review process, then the child will receive a ForwardHealth Medicaid card. This card can be used to pay for medically necessary services and

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equipment allowed under the Wisconsin Medicaid Program. Information about how to use the card and covered services will be sent to parent(s) with the approval letter. This information is also available at the following web site: <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid>

All rules and benefits for card-covered services for the Wisconsin Medicaid Program apply to children who receive their card through the Katie Beckett Program. The Division of Health Care Access and Accountability administers the Medicaid Program and is responsible for ongoing assistance to families regarding coverage and benefit questions. The member services toll free number is: **800-362-3002**.

Eligibility determination for the Katie Beckett Program is a two-part process. The Disability Determination Bureau first makes the disability determination using Social Security Act standards. After that decision, the Katie Beckett Program nurses from the Bureau of Children's Services assess all other eligibility criteria. A recertification of eligibility is required every year after the initial approval or whenever significant changes in the child's condition occur.

For more information about how to apply, go to www.compasswisconsin.org