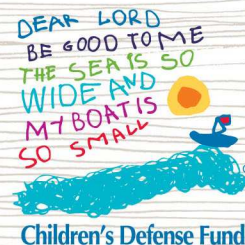


Children's Defense Fund

Health Coverage for All Children: California

October 2009



All Children Need Health Coverage that is Affordable, Comprehensive, and Simple.

Health Coverage for California's Children: *

- 683,000 uninsured (6.4% of all children).
- 2,826,000 children are enrolled in Medicaid.
- 715,000 children are enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

How affordable is health coverage for California's children?

- CHIP eligibility is up to 250 percent of poverty (\$55,125 for a family of four), plus income deductions.
- Medicaid eligibility is 200 percent of poverty (\$44,100) for children 0-1, 133 percent of poverty (\$29,327) for children 1-5, and 100 percent of poverty (\$22,050) for children 6-19.

How simple are enrollment procedures in CHIP and Medicaid for California's children? †

- Simplification procedures:
 - 12-month continuous eligibility
 - Presumptive eligibility for children in families up to 200 percent of poverty.
 - No asset test
 - No face-to-face interview for children
 - Joint application
- Barriers that remain:
 - 3 month waiting period for CHIP
 - No administrative verification of income—the state requires parents to provide proof of income before a child can get health coverage.

Call your Member of Congress and tell them: *Health reform needs to make sure that ALL children in California and America have health coverage that is affordable, comprehensive, and simple. A pound sign (#) designates Members who serve on one or more of the committees that developed the health reform bills being considered in the House and Senate.*

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^{*} California Health Interview Survey (UCLA Center for Health Policy Research), 2007.

[†] Georgetown Center for Children and Families; "State Snapshot—Medicaid and CHIP Eligibility Levels and Enrollment and Renewal Procedures." <http://ccf.georgetown.edu/index/cms-file-system-action?file=statistics/snapshot.pdf>, accessed October 12, 2009.