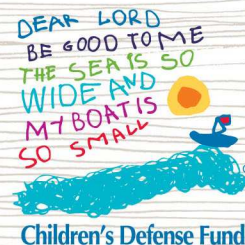


Children's Defense Fund

Health Coverage for All Children: Missouri

October 2009



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

Health Coverage for Missouri's Children:

- 133,000 children are uninsured (8.9% of all children).*
- 527,701 children are enrolled in Medicaid.**
- 136,135 children are enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).***

How affordable is health coverage for Missouri's children?†

- CHIP eligibility is 300 percent of poverty (\$66,150 for a family of four).
- Medicaid eligibility is 185 percent of poverty (\$40,793) for children 0-1; 150 percent of poverty (\$33,075) for children 1-19.

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

- Simplification procedures:
 - No face-to-face interview
 - Joint application
 - Presumptive eligibility for children in Medicaid—which allows children to see a doctor while their application is still being processed
- Barriers that remain:
 - 6-month waiting period for children in families between 150 and 300 percent of poverty
 - No 12-month continuous eligibility for children
 - No presumptive eligibility for children in CHIP—which forces children to wait until their application is processed before they can see a doctor
 - Net worth test of \$250,000 for children in families above 150 percent of poverty
 - No administrative verification of income—the state requires parents to provide proof of income before a child can get health coverage

Do children in Missouri's CHIP program receive the same comprehensive benefits as children in Medicaid?

- Yes. Missouri is one of 13 states (plus the District of Columbia) that has used CHIP funding to cover all children eligible for CHIP and Medicaid under one program. As a result, children in CHIP in these states receive the same comprehensive health and mental health coverage (through the Early and Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit) that all children in Medicaid receive.

Call your Member of Congress and tell them: *Health reform needs to make sure that ALL children in Missouri 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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* U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Current Population Survey, 2007, 2008, and 2009 Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC); and U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, "State Single Year of Age and Sex Population Estimates: April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2008 - RESIDENT," at <<http://www.census.gov/popest/states/asrh/files/SC-EST2008-AGESEX-RES.csv>> . Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, FY2006 Medicaid Statistical Information System, at <http://msis.cms.hhs.gov/>, accessed June 5, 2009. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

*** U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, SCHIP Statistical Enrollment Data System, January 20, 2009, at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalCHIPPolicy/downloads/FY2008StateTotalTable012309FINAL.pdf>, accessed June 2, 2009. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

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