

Who provides services under the BC Healthy Kids Program?

Before treatment begins, confirm that your dentist, optical provider or audiologist/hearing instrument provider offers services under the BC Healthy Kids Program. The program does not keep a list of participating providers. It is the responsibility of the parent to find a dentist, optician or audiologist/hearing instrument provider who is accepting children covered by the BC Healthy Kids Program.

Important: Before any services begin, check with your provider to see if there will be additional charges to you over what the BC Healthy Kids program will cover.



How do the service providers get paid?

The dental, optical and audiologist/hearing instrument service provider bills and receives payment directly from the BC Healthy Kids Program.

The BC Healthy Kids Program is not responsible for charges that may be billed for services:

- » For children without active coverage
- » Not covered by the program
- » Not provided within time restrictions
- » Over the annual limit
- » Over the rates of the program

For More Information

If you receive MSP premium assistance, contact your dentist, optician or audiologist/hearing instrument provider directly.

Visit the government website at:

www.gov.bc.ca/sdpr

Or call the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction toll-free:

1 866 866-0800



BC Healthy Kids Program

What it means for children



Ministry of
Social Development
and Poverty Reduction

What is the BC Healthy Kids Program?

The BC Healthy Kids Program helps low income families with the costs of basic dental care, prescription eye wear and hearing assistance for their children.

Eligible clients include dependent children under 19 years of age who receive Medical Services Plan (MSP) premium assistance through the Ministry of Health.

How do I apply for the BC Healthy Kids Program?

Families who have been approved for MSP premium assistance will be signed up with the program. Coverage begins at the start of the next month. No additional application form is needed to register.

For information on how to apply for MSP, contact the Ministry of Health at:

- » 604 683-7151, or
- » Toll-free 1 800 663-7100

Information is also available from the MSP website at: www.gov.bc.ca/msp.

What does the BC Healthy Kids Program cover?

Dental – Children are eligible for \$2,000 of basic dental services every two years. This coverage includes services such as exams, x-rays, fillings, cleanings and extractions. Your dentist can advise you of other services that may be covered. Emergency dental treatment is also available if the child's biennial limit has been reached. Emergency treatment is only available for the immediate relief of pain.

Optical – Children are eligible for prescription eyeglasses (lenses and basic frames) once in a twelve-month period. All prescriptions must be current and meet the program criteria. Further information is available from your optical provider. Children's eye examinations are covered by MSP.

The BC Healthy Kids Program does not cover orthodontic treatment and/or contact lenses.

Hearing – Children are eligible for:

- » Hearing aids
- » Bone anchored hearing aids
- » Cochlear implants
- » Repairs
- » Related items

Coverage is provided for the least expensive, appropriate hearing instruments based on an assessment completed by either an audiologist or hearing instrument provider. Preauthorization must be obtained by the provider.

An Alternative Hearing Assistance Supplement may be available if your child cannot benefit from a hearing instrument for the purpose of speech comprehension.

Contact the Healthy Kids Program at 1 866 866-0800 for further information about the Alternative Hearing Assistance Supplement.

How do I access services under the BC Healthy Kids program?

To use services under the BC Healthy Kids Program you will need to show your child's BC CareCard or BC Services Card to your provider. Your dentist, optical provider or audiologist/hearing instrument provider will confirm coverage with the program contractor before each appointment.

How long will my child be covered under the BC Healthy Kids Program?

Children are covered under the BC Healthy Kids Program as long as their parent's MSP premium assistance is active and continuously in effect. Children may be covered up to and including the month they turn 19. Any changes with your family's MSP premium assisted medical coverage may affect your child's coverage with the BC Healthy Kids Program.