

Tip Sheets

Funding Resources to Support Children with Special Needs

Funds for this program are designed to meet the needs of children with special needs and are



included in the state child care assistance programs authorized by Minnesota Statutes.

Providers caring for children with special needs, who require services with costs over and above the county maximum payment allowed, may charge a special needs rate based on the needs of the child.

Permissive Levy

This includes school-age child care special needs services in public school programs where a permissive LEVY exists, and information about how to begin the process of obtaining levy funds.

MA Behavioral Supports

Medical Assistance (MA) uses both state and federal dollars to pay for many different kinds of physical and mental health services.

TEFRA

The Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) gives Medical Assistance eligibility to certain children with special needs who live at home with their families. These services are generally available for families who don't qualify for medical assistance based upon their income.

Personal Care Attendant PCA/Shared Personal Care Assistant

This is a medical assistance service available to children and adults with developmental disabilities, other disabilities, or complex challenging behaviors or medical needs. Criteria for PCA services and the sharing of PCA's by more than one recipient at the same time in the same setting are included.

Social Security Income (SSI)

SSI is a program under the Social Security Administration, which provides income for individuals with disabilities. Eligibility is based on the family's income, the child's disability, and US citizenship or legal US resident.

Minnesota Children with Special Needs (MCSHN)

MCSHN is a state health department program accountable for the successful performance of core public health functions on behalf of children and youth with special health needs, their families and communities. MCSHN provides services on a sliding fee scale and is an informational resource.

Private Insurance

Family's private insurance may be supporting the child in therapy services, such as physical, occupational, speech/language therapy, or mental health services. These professionals should be able to offer information, support, and consultation to the childcare program as well. Consult with the parents for these options, assuring that a release of information is obtained.

Family Support Grants

The Family Support Grant Program provides cash grants to individual families of children with a developmental disability. The grant must be spent on services and items that are directly related to caring for the child with a disability. This may include child care, respite care, specialized equipment or modifications. Families should contact their county developmental disabilities services division for information.

MinnesotaCare

MinnesotaCare is a subsidized health program open to all residents of Minnesota who meet the program requirements. MinnesotaCare does cover mental health services. Enrollees pay monthly premiums for their coverage based on their income and family size. The program has low co-payments.

Minnesota State Services for the Blind and Visually Handicapped

This resource provides and coordinates the provision of rehabilitation services to blind and visually impaired persons. Contact 800-652-9000 for more details.

Equipment Distribution Program

This resource provides telephone equipment to Minnesotans who have hearing, speech or mobility impairments. Contact 800-657-3663 for more details.

The STAR Directory “Funding Resources for Assistive Technology in Minnesota”

This resource provides information about potential assistance in acquiring adaptive equipment 800-657-3862.

For more information, visit www.inclusivechildcare.org.

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