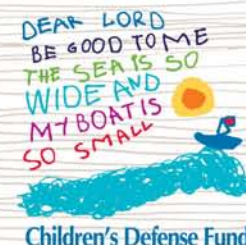


Children's Defense Fund

Health Coverage for All Children: Montana

February 2011



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

Health Coverage for Montana's Children:

- 28,000 children are uninsured (11.8% of all children).^{*}
- 60,891 children are enrolled in Medicaid.^{**}
- 25,231 children are enrolled in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).^{***}

How affordable is health coverage for Montana's children?[†]

- Healthy Montana Kids (HMK), formerly known as CHIP, extends eligibility up to 250 percent of poverty (\$55,875 for a family of four).
- HMK *Plus* (formerly children's Medicaid) eligibility is up to 133 percent of poverty (\$29,726) for children 0-5 and 100 percent of poverty (\$22,350) for children 6-19.

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

- Simplification procedures:
 - 12-month continuous eligibility for children in HMK and HMK *Plus*
 - No Asset Test
 - No face-to-face interview
 - Joint application
 - Presumptive eligibility—which allows children to see a doctor while their application is still being processed.
- Barriers that remain:
 - Applicants must provide proof of citizenship for children not born in Montana.
 - Children must be uninsured for three months prior to being enrolled in HMK (No uninsured period for children enrolled in HMK *Plus*).
 - No administrative verification of income—the state requires parents to provide proof of income before a child can get health coverage.

^{*} U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau 2008, 2009, 2010 Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) to the Current Population Survey (CPS); Annual Estimates of the Resident Population by Single-Year of age Sex for the United States and States, April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2009, at <<http://www.census.gov/popest/states/asrh/files/SC-EST2009-AGESEX-RES.csv>> . Calculations by Children's Defense Fund.

^{**} U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services: Medicaid Statistical Information System, at <http://msis.cms.hhs.gov/>, accessed January 19, 2011. Calculations by Children's Defense Fund, 1/11.

^{***} U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CHIP Statistical Enrollment Data Systems (SEDS) forms CMS21E, CMS-64, 21E, CMS-21waiver, October 26, 2010. 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 January 1, 2011.