

## Family and Clients Information Sheet – Sickle Cell Disease Expansion



Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) is pleased to announce an eligibility expansion for adults ages 21 and older with sickle cell disease. The information contained in this document is an effort to help clients with sickle cell disease understand how to get CSHCS coverage.

**Initial Adult Enrollment:** Enrollment in CSHCS begins with the provider submitting a medical report related to the sickle cell diagnosis. If you have recently lost CSHCS coverage, you may be eligible to re-enroll. The initial medical eligibility period is two years if the initial medical report is not from a hematologist. If the initial medical report is received from a hematologist, the medical eligibility period is up to five years. Clients who do not have Medicaid will need to complete an enrollment application.

**Renewal:** The initial two-year medical eligibility is to allow the patient to establish care with a hematologist for their sickle cell disease. A medical report from a hematologist will be needed for renewal.

**Financial Review:** Clients who do not have Medicaid will need to complete the Income Review Payment Agreement (IRPA) form, *in addition to the enrollment application*. There is a fee to join the program for those who do not have Medicaid.

**Covered Services:** CSHCS will cover services directly related to the sickle cell diagnosis. CSHCS also helps with co-pays and deductibles, transportation, care coordination, access to CMDS clinics, and case management.

**Provider Requirements:** A medical report will be accepted from subspecialty, primary care, and emergency care providers for *initial enrollment*. Enrollees who are not currently being seen by a hematologist will need to be seen by a hematologist within the first two years of enrollment to continue being medically eligible for CSHCS. Your local public health department can help you find a provider if needed.

**Diagnostic Evaluation:** For individuals without Medicaid, CSHCS will pay for a diagnostic evaluation to determine if they have a qualifying sickle cell diagnosis. Diagnostic evaluations can be arranged through the local health department CSHCS nurse.

**Backdating and Prior Billing:** In most instances an initial enrollment into CSHCS can be backdated up to six months. However, the start date for coverage for adults age 21 and older with sickle cell disease cannot begin before 10/01/2021. Billing can be submitted back to the effective date of the CSHCS coverage.

**For more information regarding CSHCS or the enrollment process,  
please contact your Local Health Department,  
or the CSHCS Family Phone Line at 1-800-359-3722**