

STAR Kids: What to Know



CTD has received a lot of questions and concerns about the upcoming roll out of STAR Kids. While important unknowns remain, we lay out what we know and where to find more information below.

Above: CTD staff kid Matt Masey and his best friend Liam, among the age groups that the STAR Kids transition will affect.

Overview

November 1st of 2016, nearly 180,000 children and youth will be served by a new Medicaid Managed Care initiative.

STAR Kids is a Medicaid Managed Care program* that will provide a mix of acute care (basic health services) and long-term services and supports to children and youth aged 20 and younger who either receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Medicaid services, or are enrolled in the Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP).

For children and youth in MDCP, STAR Kids provides both basic health services (acute care) and long-term services and supports.

For children and youth in other 1915(c) waiver programs** STAR Kids provides basic health services only.

The STAR Kids program will provide additional benefits such as prescription drugs, hospital care, primary and specialty care, preventive care, personal care services, private duty nursing, and durable medical equipment and supplies.

*Medicaid managed care program is healthcare provided through a network of doctors, hospitals and other healthcare providers responsible for managing and delivering quality, cost-effective care.

**View an overview of each program at: <http://www.cms.gov/outreach-and-education/american-indian-alaska-native/aian/ltss-roadmap/resources/state-federal-relationships/1915c-Waivers-by-State.html#texas>

STAR Kids Enrollment Timeline 2016

The STAR Kids program is currently on track to begin enrollment on August 1st of 2016. Other important dates are as follows:

- May — Information and program notification to those who are eligible
- June — Reminder of enrollment dates
- July — Information and Enrollment Packets (including local provider directories, MCO value added services lists, and sample forms).
- August 1st — Enrollment Begins. Choose your MCO.

My Provider (doctor, specialist) is not part of the managed care program!

What do I do?

If your family will be served by STAR Kids, it is imperative that you take the initiative and tell your doctor(s) (and other providers) that STAR Kids will become your child's method of payment through a Managed Care Organization (MCO).

CTD knows your relationship with a trusted provider may be very important to your family. You must let them know that they will have to become a credentialed provider with the MCO that you choose (or with all MCOs in a region), and that they must be part of the MCO network in order to continue to provide services to your child.

More Information to Follow

The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) will be developing an extensive Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) in the near future to address common issues, concerns, and problems. Furthermore, HHSC will be sending more detailed information out this May to those who will be transitioning to STAR Kids. Be on the lookout!

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