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## MEDICAL SUBSIDY ELIGIBILITY

### Certification Criteria

A child may be eligible for adoption medical subsidy when all the following are met:

- The child was in foster care through the Michigan public child welfare system at the time the petition for adoption was filed, or the child was in foster care through an applicable tribal law and all program requirements are met.
- Certification was requested and approved.
- The medical subsidy agreement was issued and finalized prior to the child's 18th birthday.

**Note:** The child's adoption must be finalized before their 18th birthday to be eligible for medical subsidy.

- The expenses to be covered by medical subsidy are necessary because of an identified physical, mental health, or emotional condition of the child which existed, or the cause of which existed, before the adoption petition was filed.

**Note:** Children who are Supplemental Security Income (SSI) eligible and who were not in foster care and/or have an adoption assistance agreement in place are not eligible to apply for the medical subsidy program.

### Application

The application procedure for medical subsidy depends on whether the child's adoption is pending or whether the child has been legally placed in adoption. Procedures are as follows:

#### ***For Children Whose Adoption is Pending***

The **child's adoption case manager** must submit a [DHS-1341, Adoption Assistance and/or Medical Subsidy Application](#), to the Adoption and Guardianship Assistance Office (AGAO).

***For Children with an Order Placing Child After Consent (PCA 320) or Order of Adoption (PCA 321)***

After the PCA 320 or PCA 321 has been signed by the court, the **adoptive parent(s)/guardian(s)** must submit a [DHS-1341-A, Parent Application for Adoption Medical Subsidy for An Adopted Child](#), to the AGAO.

The adoption case manager will assist the adoptive parent(s)/guardian(s) by:

- Providing the DHS-1341-A form.
- Assisting the adoptive parent(s)/guardian(s) with completing the DHS-1341-A.
- Informing the adoptive parent(s)/guardian(s) the effective date of the agreement, will be the date the DHS-1341-A is received by the AGAO, when the required documentation is received within 90 calendar days of the application receipt date.

**Note:** The application will be denied if documentation is not received by the AGAO within 90 calendar days of the application receipt date. In the event of a denial, the adoptive parent(s)/guardian(s) may reapply for adoption medical subsidy.

**Note:** The child's legal guardian(s) are eligible to apply on behalf of the deceased adoptive parent(s).

**Documentation Requirements**

Documentation requirements for medical subsidy certification include:

- All documentation (with the exception of medical birth records of prenatal drug exposure) must be signed and dated within 12 months of the application date by the appropriate diagnosing professional:
  - Physical conditions must be documented by a licensed physician or a licensed physician assistant.

**Note:** Prematurity and common viruses or colds are not certifiable conditions through the medical subsidy program.

- Emotional conditions such as anxiety disorder, adjustment disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, autism, or attachment disorder must be documented by a licensed psychologist, licensed psychiatrist, licensed clinical social worker (LCSW), licensed master social worker (LMSW), licensed physician, or licensed physician assistant. In cases where the diagnosing professional is not in Michigan, an equivalent state license is required.
- Psychiatric conditions such as bipolar disorder or schizophrenia must be documented by a licensed psychiatrist, a licensed psychologist, LCSW, or LMSW or licensed physician.
- Education/learning conditions such as mental impairment, learning disability, developmental delay/disorder, emotional impairment, or autism must be documented by a current Individual Education Program (IEP) or Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) document or a comprehensive evaluation by a licensed psychologist or licensed psychiatrist.
- Speech and language conditions must be documented by a licensed speech and language pathologist, licensed psychologist, or licensed psychiatrist.
- Developmental delays/disorders must be documented by a licensed physician, licensed physician assistant, licensed psychologist, or licensed psychiatrist.
- Attention deficit disorder (ADD)/attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) must be documented by either a licensed physician, licensed physician assistant, a fully licensed psychologist, or licensed psychiatrist. When the diagnosis is by a fully licensed psychologist, a comprehensive evaluation is required.
- Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder must be documented by a medical geneticist, a licensed physician, licensed neurologist, or a licensed psychiatrist.
- Hearing loss must be documented by an audiologist, licensed physician, or licensed physician assistant.

- Vision problems must be documented by an optometrist, ophthalmologist, licensed physician, or licensed physician assistant.
- Motor impairments and sensory problems must be documented by an occupational therapist, licensed physician, or licensed physician assistant.
- Prenatal drug exposure must be documented with a lab report or hospital record specific to the child **or** the parent that gave birth.
- Dental conditions must be documented by a dentist.

**Note:** Medical subsidy does not certify dental cavities.

- Orthodontic problems must be documented by an orthodontist or dentist.

**Note:** When extractions are needed as part of an orthodontic treatment plan, then orthodontic needs may be certified and utilized to assist with costs; see [AAM 640, Post Placement- Use of the Adoption/Guardianship Medical Subsidy Program](#).

The documentation **must** identify the condition and explain how the condition, or its cause, existed prior to the adoption.

The AGAO will determine if the documentation submitted for any of the above conditions is sufficient to meet certification criteria for medical subsidy and may request additional documentation.

Not all services are covered; see AAM 640.

## POLICY CONTACT

Direct questions about this policy to the [Child Welfare Policy Mailbox](#) ([Child-Welfare-Policy@michigan.gov](mailto:Child-Welfare-Policy@michigan.gov)).