

## Is your child eligible for extra insurance coverage through the state of Massachusetts?

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Many patients at the Dana-Farber/Boston Children's Cancer and Blood Disorders Center are eligible for insurance coverage through their state's health insurance program. In Massachusetts this program is called MassHealth and applicants must be permanent residents of Massachusetts. An applicant's immigration status may affect their eligibility.

MassHealth may serve as a child's primary insurance. For other children, through a program called *CommonHealth*, MassHealth may provide extra insurance coverage. Many patients are eligible to receive coverage through MassHealth – even if they already have private insurance coverage through a parent - because they are determined to be disabled by the state.

The *CommonHealth* plan can be a help because it sometimes helps cover services that are not covered by private health insurance plans, and it often helps cover the deductibles and copayments that many private health insurance plans require.

**There is no income eligibility limit** for the *CommonHealth* plan. We strongly advise families to apply for this coverage without delay. If MassHealth determines a child disabled, the child is eligible for coverage. Some families may have to pay a monthly fee and/or meet a one-time deductible. If your child is eligible and you are required to pay a monthly fee, you may decide at any time to cancel your plan if you feel the fee is too high.

### Meeting with a financial counselor

To apply for MassHealth contact a financial counselor (617-355-7201 at Children's Hospital or 617-632-3455 at Dana-Farber) and he/she will help you complete a MassHealth application.

- When you meet with the financial counselor be sure to ask for and complete a copy of the [MassHealth Child Disability Supplement](#). This will be submitted by the financial counselor to MassHealth for you.
- MassHealth may initially deny some applications based on a family's income. They often reverse their decision once they receive and review the patient's disability supplement and medical records.

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Information and applications, including the Child Disability Supplement, are also available via the MassHealth website: [www.mass.gov/masshealth](http://www.mass.gov/masshealth). For questions regarding applications families should call the MassHealth Customer Service Center at 1-800-841-2900 (TTY: 1-800-497-4648).

Families who do not reside in Massachusetts should contact their state's Medicaid program to learn if their child may be eligible for insurance coverage through their home state.

## Contact Us

**For patient care assistance, please call the following phone numbers:**

- Jimmy Fund Clinic (617) 632-3270  
Business Hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Page Operator (617) 632-3352  
Off hours: weekdays after 5 p.m., holidays, and weekends  
Page pediatric hematology/oncology fellow on call
- Life Threatening Emergencies dial 911