

## How can families find a CMH-approved provider for their child?

Call your local health department or go to: [WWW.ODH.OHIO.GOV](http://WWW.ODH.OHIO.GOV)  
Click on "C" for CMH



## What conditions are eligible for CMH?

Some of the eligible conditions are:

- AIDS
- Cancer
- Cerebral palsy
- Cleft lip/palate
- Cystic fibrosis
- Diabetes
- Scoliosis
- Hemophilia
- Hearing loss
- Juvenile arthritis
- Metabolic disorders
- Severe vision disorders
- Sickle cell disease
- Spina bifida
- Congenital heart disease
- Chronic lung disease

*Special health care needs may be caused by a condition a child is born with or develops later.*

## Which children are eligible for CMH?

Those who are:

- Age 0–21
- Permanent residents of Ohio
- Under the care of a BCMH-approved doctor (M.D. or D.O.) and who have or may have a chronic medical condition

*Financial eligibility is required for the Treatment Program only.*

## How is a child enrolled in the CMH program?

The child's CMH-approved doctor (M.D. or D.O.) sends a medical application form to CMH. Public health nurses can start the application process by referring families to CMH approved doctors. The parent, legal guardian or client who is at least 18 years old must sign the release of information and consent on the application form before CMH can act on the application.

## How can families learn more about CMH?

Contact your local health department or use the contact information below.



### Children with Medical Handicaps Program

P.O. Box 1603  
Columbus, OH 43216-1603

614-466-1700

1-800-755-4769 (Toll-free for parents only)

1-800-750-0750 (TTY)



## Do you have, or know of a child with a Special Health Care Need?

### The Children with Medical Handicaps Program (CMH) may be able to help.

(CMH was formerly BCMH)

**Ohio**  
Department of Health  
[www.odh.ohio.gov](http://www.odh.ohio.gov)

# What is CMH?

CMH, the Children with Medical Handicaps Program, is a health care program in the Ohio Department of Health. It links families of children with special health care needs to a network of quality providers and helps families obtain payment for the services their child needs.

CMH supports the **Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH)** where primary care providers and families work together to improve health outcomes and quality of life for children and youth with special health care needs and their families.

The **PCMH** is a partnership between the doctor and the child's family. A good **PCMH**:

- Knows its patients.
- Partner with and learn from children and families.
- Uses a team approach for the care of chronic conditions, which includes planned, proactive visits.
- Coordinates services.
- Co-manages with families and specialists.
- Assists with transitions.
- Provides connections with community organizations.
- Is satisfying for families, providers, and clinic staff.

CMH works with doctors and other health care providers to ensure that every child with a special health care need will have a **PCMH**.

## Your Voice is Important to CMH

Parents are encouraged to attend the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings. These meetings are held 4 times a year across Ohio. CMH values parent input on the development and delivery of programs and services for children with special health care needs. Please contact [BCMh@ODH.Ohio.gov](mailto:BCMh@ODH.Ohio.gov) for more information

# 3 Ways CMH Can Help...

CMH has three programs to help children with special health care needs. All services must be given by CMH approved providers.

## 1. The Diagnostic Program

Children can receive services for up to six months, from CMH-approved providers, to rule out or diagnose a special health care need or establish a plan of treatment. These services may include:

- Tests and X-rays
- Public health nursing services
- Up to five days in the hospital
- Therapy evaluations
- Visits to CMH-approved doctors

## 2. The Treatment Program

Children can receive services for one year, from CMH-approved providers, for treatment of an eligible condition. Both medical and financial eligibility are required for the Treatment Program. Treatment services may include:

- Laboratory tests and X-rays
- Medical equipment and supplies
- Therapies
- Physician visits
- Surgeries and hospitalizations
- Service coordination
- Prescription medications
- Public health nurse services

All services must be related to the child's eligible condition. If the child remains eligible, services may be renewed each year until the child reaches age 21.

## 3. The Service Coordination Program

This program helps families locate and coordinate services for their child. This is a limited program available to children, with specific conditions, who are seen by a team of providers at hospitals approved by CMH for service coordination.

