Medicaid Works for Georgia

Medicaid and PeachCare provide almost 2 million Georgians with access to health care, including 1.3 million children. About two thirds of Medicaid enrollees are children statewide. Another quarter are elderly, blind or disabled.

Created in 1965, the Medicaid program provides health insurance coverage to low-income residents through a partnership between states and the federal government. PeachCare for Kids provides coverage for children in families who earn too much to qualify for Medicaid.

Medicaid is a critical source of coverage for many health services in Georgia. Medicaid is the primary payer for 75 percent of Georgia’s nursing home patients and also covers more than half of all childbirths in the state.

Medicaid is Major Source of Payment for Key Health Services in Georgia

- Medicaid is primary payer for 75% of Georgia’s nursing home patients
- Medicaid pays for more than half of all births in Georgia

Medicaid and PeachCare Provide Access to Health Services for

1.98 MILLION GEORGIANS
including
1.3 MILLION CHILDREN

Half of Georgia’s Children Are Covered by Medicaid
Medicaid Provides Access to Care

Medicaid provides access to care for Georgians throughout the state. About 88 percent of Medicaid enrollees have a usual source of care, compared with 90 percent of people with employee-sponsored insurance plans.

Enrollees Meet Strict Income Eligibility Standards

Georgians must meet specific criteria to enroll in Medicaid. Eligibility levels are based on household income and assets, with thresholds that vary for different groups. Adults without dependent children are not eligible for Medicaid in Georgia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parents with children under age 19</td>
<td>Annual income up to $6,600 for a family of three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant women</td>
<td>Annual income up to $44,900 for a family of three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children ages 6 to 19</td>
<td>Annual income up to $32,700 for a family of four</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blind, disabled or over age 65</td>
<td>Annual income up to $8,800 for an individual or $13,200 for a couple</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Medicaid Controls Costs Efficiently

For every dollar spent on Medicaid

- 94 cents spent directly on health services
- 6 cents spent on administrative costs

Medicaid provides coverage efficiently by spending less on administrative costs. Private insurance companies can spend up to 20 cents of every dollar on administrative costs, but Medicaid spends less than half of that: just six cents per dollar on administrative overhead.

Medicaid’s efficiency helps explain how the program’s spending has grown more slowly than private insurance. Since 2007, Medicaid’s spending per enrollee has grown 1.1 percent, compared with 4.4 percent for private insurance providers.

Medicaid Gives a 2-to-1 Return

Medicaid provides a stellar return on investment for Georgia. For every 1 dollar Georgia invests in Medicaid, the federal government matches with more than 2 dollars.

People with Usual Source of Health Care

- 90%
- 80%
- 70%
- 60%
- 50%
- 40%
- 30%
- 20%
- 10%
- 0%

Uninsured

Medicaid

Employer sponsored

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parents with children under age 19</td>
<td>Annual income up to $6,600 for a family of three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant women</td>
<td>Annual income up to $44,900 for a family of three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children ages 6 to 19</td>
<td>Annual income up to $32,700 for a family of four</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blind, disabled or over age 65</td>
<td>Annual income up to $8,800 for an individual or $13,200 for a couple</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>