

## How long will my child be covered under the BC Healthy Kids Program?

Children are covered under the BC Healthy Kids Program as long as their coverage under MSP supplementary benefits is active and continuously in effect. Children may be covered, up to and including, the month they turn 19. Any changes with your family's MSP supplementary benefits coverage may affect your child's coverage.

## Who provides services under the BC Healthy Kids Program?

Before treatment begins, confirm that your dentist, optical provider or audiologist/hearing instrument provider offers services under the BC Healthy Kids Program. The program does not keep a list of participating providers. It is the responsibility of the parent to find a dentist, optician or audiologist/hearing instrument provider who is accepting children covered by the BC Healthy Kids Program.



**Important: Before any services begin, check with your provider to see if there will be additional charges to you over what the BC Healthy Kids program will cover.**

## How do the service providers get paid?

The dental, optical and audiologist/hearing instrument service providers bill and receive payment directly from the BC Healthy Kids Program.

The BC Healthy Kids Program is not responsible for charges that are:

- » For children without active coverage
- » Not covered by the program
- » Not provided within time restrictions
- » Over the two-year limit
- » Over the rates of the program

## For More Information

If you have coverage for MSP supplementary benefits, contact your dentist, optician or audiologist/hearing instrument provider directly to access benefits under the Healthy Kids Program.

Visit the government website at:

[gov.bc.ca/sdpr](http://gov.bc.ca/sdpr)

Or call the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction toll-free:

**1-866-866-0800**



# BC Healthy Kids Program



Ministry of  
Social Development  
and Poverty Reduction

## What is the BC Healthy Kids Program?

The BC Healthy Kids Program helps low income families with the costs of basic dental care, prescription eyewear and hearing assistance for their children.

Eligible clients include children under 19 years of age who have coverage for Medical Services Plan (MSP) supplementary benefits through the Ministry of Health.

## How do I apply for the BC Healthy Kids Program?

Families who have been approved for MSP supplementary benefits will be signed up with the Healthy Kids Program. Your family must have an annual adjusted net income of \$42,000 or less to be eligible for these benefits.

To access MSP supplementary benefits, you must:

- » Apply for [MSP Supplementary Benefits](#) with Health Insurance BC (HIBC)
- » File your taxes each year with Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)
- » Update your MSP account if you have any changes in your family (adding or removing a spouse or child)

HIBC will verify your income each year with the CRA to determine ongoing eligibility for MSP supplementary benefits and the Healthy

Kids Program. No additional application form is needed to register for the Healthy Kids Program. Coverage begins at the start of the next month following approval.

For information on how to apply for MSP supplementary benefits, contact Health Insurance BC at:

- » 604-683-7151, or
- » Toll-free 1-800-663-7100

Information is also available from the MSP website at: [www.gov.bc.ca/msp](http://www.gov.bc.ca/msp)

## What does the BC Healthy Kids Program cover?

**Dental** — Children are eligible for \$2,000 of basic dental services every two years. This includes services such as exams, x-rays, fillings, cleanings and extractions. Your dentist can advise you of other services that may be covered. Emergency dental treatment for the immediate relief of pain is also available if the child's two-year limit has been reached.

**Optical** — Children are eligible for prescription eyeglasses (lenses and basic frames) once in a 12 month period. All prescriptions must be current and meet the program criteria. Further information is available from your optical provider. Children's eye examinations are covered by MSP.

The BC Healthy Kids Program does not cover orthodontic treatment and/or contact lenses.

**Hearing** — Children are eligible for:

- » Hearing aids
- » Bone anchored hearing aids
- » Cochlear implants
- » Repairs
- » Related items

Coverage is provided for the least expensive, appropriate hearing instruments based on an assessment completed by either an audiologist or hearing instrument provider. Preauthorization must be obtained by the provider.

An Alternative Hearing Assistance Supplement may be available if your child cannot benefit from a hearing instrument for the purpose of speech comprehension.

Contact the Healthy Kids Program at 1-866-866-0800 for further information.

## How do I access services under the BC Healthy Kids Program?

To use services under the BC Healthy Kids Program you will need to show your child's BC CareCard or BC Services Card to your provider. Your dentist, optical provider or audiologist/hearing instrument provider will confirm coverage with the program contractor before each appointment.