

Policy Memo: I-6-2012

Memo Name: New Adjunct Eligible Program

Policy Clarification

Policy Change

New Policy

Effective Date: July 19, 2012

Policy Effective Until: Ongoing

Policy Memo Effective Until: Procedure approved by USDA.

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A new health care program was established by the Nebraska legislature last year through LB599. The new program is called 599 CHIP (Children’s Health Insurance Program), and provides insurance for the unborn child of mothers who do not qualify for any other Medicaid programs offered by DHHS. 599 CHIP began accepting applications for the program on July 19, 2012.

Applicants applying for WIC who have 599 CHIP are considered adjunctively income eligible for WIC.

The income threshold for 599 CHIP is 185% of the poverty level, the same as WIC’s guidelines.

599 CHIP is a **SEPARATE** program from Medicaid and **does not** confer eligibility to any other family members.

During the initial implementation of 599 CHIP clients will receive a paper notice that will serve as the unborn child’s Medicaid ID. This notice will be acceptable proof of participation in an adjunctive eligible program for WIC purposes. Coverage may also be verified through the Nebraska Medicaid Eligibility System (NMES).

Key differences between 599 CHIP and traditional Medicaid and Kids Connection programs are:

<i>Medicaid/Kids Connection</i>	<i>599 CHIP</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not cover unborn child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covers the unborn child
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must meet legal residency requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal residency in the US of mother not a requirement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cannot have other health insurance coverage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May have health insurance coverage, but the plan does not cover pregnancy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May cover both mom and baby’s costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must apply for and be found ineligible for any other Medicaid program

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Covers only the costs associated with the unborn child (prenatal and baby's hospital costs)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No presumptive eligibility or retro payments prior to the month of application for the unborn child

Clients who may be eligible for 599 CHIP include:

- Teenager who fails to qualify for Medicaid using mom & dad's income. 599 CHIP will look at only the teen's income when making a determination of eligibility.
- Families who have health insurance, but the insurance does not cover pregnancy. This is usually self-employed or farm families.
- Totally undocumented aliens.
- Students with a student visa.

Women may apply for the program on-line using AccessNebraska or by submitting a paper application. Paper applications can be found on the DHHS website at the following link.

<http://dhhs.ne.gov/medicaid/Documents/EA-117.pdf>

To speed up the application process women who know, or think, they are not eligible for traditional Medicaid or Kids Connection should write in the comment area of the application that they are "just applying for my unborn child".

If you have any questions contact me at 308-865-5616