**Who is covered in Georgia’s Medicaid Program?**

**ELIGIBILITY GROUPS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FFS</th>
<th>MCOs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dual Eligibles</td>
<td>Children (0-18 years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aged, Blind, Disabled Adults</td>
<td>Current and Former Foster Care Children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities</td>
<td>Parents and other Caretaker Relatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pregnant Women</td>
</tr>
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<td>Incarcerated Individuals*</td>
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</tbody>
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*Only for those in the juvenile justice system.

**Important News**

- **2016** - Georgia lawmakers continue to look at alternative models for Medicaid expansion, specifically a variation of the premium assistance model, in which Medicaid funds are used to purchase insurance for Medicaid expansion members through the Exchange.

- **2017** - Georgia state legislators introduce a resolution urging the governor to pursue an 1115 waiver to transition the state’s Medicaid program to per-capita cap funding.

**Do Medicaid health plans provide coverage?**

- Yes
- No

- WellCare (WellCare)
- Amerigroup Community Care (Anthem)
- Peach State Health Plan (Centene)

**How has Georgia’s Medicaid program engaged in Managed Care?**

**SECTION 1115 WAIVER**

Georgia Planning for Healthy Babies provides a limited Medicaid benefit package for family planning to populations not covered under the Medicaid state plan. It aims to reduce the incidence of low birthweight and the number of unintended pregnancies, and increase child spacing intervals through effective contraception use.

- **EFFECTIVE:** 1/1/2011
- **APPROVAL:** 10/31/2010
- **EXPIRATION:** 3/31/2019

Status: A three-year extension application is pending approval.

www.MedicaidInnovation.org
How is Georgia meeting the needs of Medicaid enrollees?

Value-Based Healthcare Initiatives

The Georgia Academy of Family Physicians (GAAP) took the lead to establish a Person-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) University in 2010 to help transform Georgia family physician practices into nationally recognized NCQA medical homes, increase primary care compensation for improving health, and reduce health care costs. Program initiatives include:

- Free access to online networking and education for family medicine practices
- Payment for emailing patients
- Establish a clinical data system
- Offer same-day appointments

The Georgia Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (GHHLPPP) is focused on eliminating childhood lead poisoning in Georgia through the following efforts:

- Develop and implement a strategic plan for the state to reduce or eliminate housing-related health hazards and to promote housing that is healthy, safe, affordable, and accessible
- Build a consortium of strategic partners to address unsafe and/or unhealthy housing conditions caused by housing-based hazards by leveraging resources and seeking sustainability in funding
- Assure that follow-up care and interventions are provided for vulnerable populations who are identified with housing-related health issues

Family Planning

Georgia has a family planning waiver that provides a limited Medicaid benefit package of family planning to populations not covered under the Medicaid state plan exams, contraceptives, pregnancy tests, pap smears, and sterilization.

Women’s Health

Women’s Health is covered through Women’s Health Medicaid.

Oral Health

Georgia only covers emergency dental services for recipients ages 21 and older.

Behavioral Health

WellCare is the provider of behavioral health services for those enrolled in Georgia Medicaid plans. Services include:

- Home health care services
- Crisis stabilization
- Elective inpatient admissions
- Community mental health services
- Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT)
- Alcohol and substance abuse admissions
- Drug therapies covered: methadone, naltrexone, acamprosate, disulfiram

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**Timeline**

**Federal**

- 1965: President Johnson signs Social Security Amendments of 1965, creating Medicaid as public health program for the poor.
- 1967: Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) services are a requirement for children enrolled in Medicaid.
- 1972: Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program becomes Medicaid eligibility category for the elderly and persons with disabilities.
- 1981: Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waivers created for Long-Term Care (LTC) and Disproportional Share Hospital (DSH) payments.
- 1984: Children and pregnant women become mandatory Medicaid eligibility groups.
- 1989: Children up to age 6 and pregnant women up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL) become eligible; EPSDT benefit expanded;
  Mandatory eligibility extended to children ages 6 to 18 years in families up to 100 percent FPL; eligibility phased in from 1990 through 2002.
- 1993: Balanced Budget Act of 1997 allows Medicaid to be delivered through managed care organizations;
  State Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) created; states now have option to provide coverage for uninsured children in low-income families above FPL.
- 1997: Olmstead decision allows expanded HCBS coverage for persons with disabilities.
- 2006: Affordable Care Act (ACA) expands Medicaid eligibility to adults with incomes up to 138 percent FPL.
  ACA implementation begins.
- 2010: 32 states and the District of Columbia (DC) have expanded Medicaid since passage of the ACA.

**Georgia**

- 1967: State of Georgia adopts Medicaid program.
- 1993: Georgia Medicaid transitions to managed care.
- 2006: Georgia transitions entire Medicaid program from a primarily fee-for-service (FFS) system to a statewide, risk-based managed care program, Georgia Families.
- 2014: Georgia enacts HB 943 to prohibit state and local employees from advocating for Medicaid expansion.
- 2015: The Georgia Chamber of Commerce outlines a proposal for a conservative approach to Medicaid expansion dubbed the “Georgia Way,” but without providing specifics regarding funding or how many people would be covered.