CALIFORNIA CHILDREN'S SERVICES (CCS) PROGRAM

County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency

Public Health Services

August 4, 2026

Health Services Advisory Board Meeting

California Children's Services (CCS) Program

CCS Case Management Program

- Provide family-centered care coordination for CCS-eligible clients with a quality of workforce, team collaboration, and strong community partnerships.
- Average clients served FY25-26: 14,340



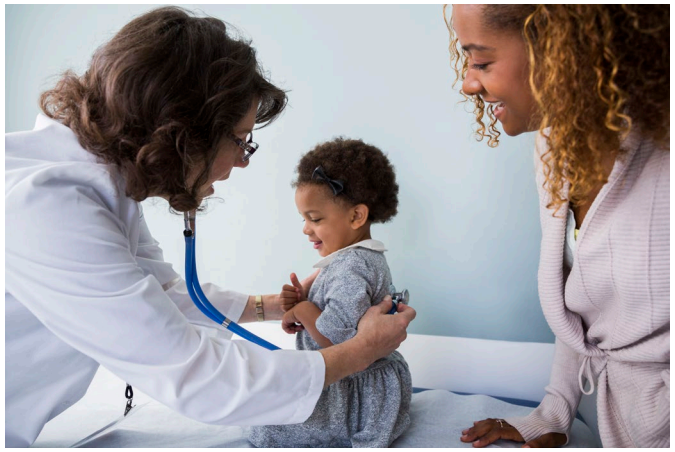
CCS Medical Therapy Program

- To maximize functional independence of children with physical disabilities through family-centered care at the medical therapy units.
- Average clients served FY25-26: 1,560



CCS Program Eligibility

- **Medical**
  - California Code of Regulations, Title 22
- **Financial**
  - $40,000 or less; or out of pocket medical expenses expected to be more than 20% of adjusted gross income
  - Eligible for Medi-Cal
- **Residential**
  - Resident of California
  - Proof of residence in county of service
- **Medical Therapy Program**
  - No financial requirements for occupational/physical therapy services
  - Only residential requirement is must be eligible to be enrolled in a public school



California Children's Services (CCS) Program

Funding Sources

- State General Fund
- Federal Title XIX (19)
- Federal Title XXI (21)
- Health Realignment

Authority

- California Government Code Sections 7570-7585
- California Health & Safety Code Sections 123800-123995 (Robert W. Crown California Children's Services Act
- California Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 14094-14094.3
- California Insurance Code Sections 12690.62, 12693.64, and 12693.66
- California Code of Regulations, Title 22 Social Security, Division 2, Subdivision 7. California Children's Services

CCS Program Accomplishments FY25-26

1. **Medical Services Management:** Manage CCS eligible medical services care for 14,340 children with medical conditions (e.g., cystic fibrosis, hemophilia, cerebral palsy, heart disease, cancer, traumatic injuries, and infectious diseases producing major complications.)
2. **Care Coordination:** Assist 14,340 CCS families in navigating complete specialty care networks and medical services.
3. **School-Based Rehabilitation:** Provide direct physical and occupational therapy in partnership with local schools to 1,560 children with physical disabilities and complex, special health care needs.
4. **Expedited Hospital Determination:** Accelerate eligibility reviews at regional hospitals including Rady Children's Hospital, University of California San Diego, Sharp, and Kaiser.
5. **State Collaboration:** Partner with the DHCS to improve the state authorization system and expediate provider service approvals.





CCS Program Performance Measures

(From DHCS CCS Monitoring & Oversight Initiative)

- County activities that DHCS monitors and reviews:
  - Annual Medical Review/Family Participation
  - Authorized Annual Special Care Center
  - Medical, Financial and Residentially Eligibility review timeframes
  - Medical Home
  - Medical Therapy Program (MTP) Chart Audits
  - Directory of Medical Therapy Unit (MTU) locations and approval letters
  - Resolution of Grievances and Appeals
  - Service Authorization Request (SAR) processing timeframes
  - Transition Planning at Ages 17 and 20

CCS Program challenges



- Challenges
  - Training and retention of experienced staff
  - Complexity of cases adds to challenge of timeliness and comprehensive care coordination required of staff to manage a high-volume caseload
  - Planning for clients with complex health care needs as they transition to adult services
  - Adequate funding



- Solutions
  - Work with Public Health Services Administration and Agency's Human Resources to retain experienced and competent workforce, and provide succession planning
  - Increase collaboration/leverage resources with community partners regarding transition to adulthood services through joint meetings, sharing resources
  - Monitor high-cost cases and ensure no lapse in Medi-Cal renewal

California Children's Services (CCS) Program Certification

Required by the California Department of Health Care Services

Fiscal Year 2027-2028 through 2031-2032

This certification acknowledges County compliance with all regulatory requirements and allows the County to receive State and Federal reimbursements for services ($24,504,715 for July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2028 and similar amounts for future fiscal years).

Recommendations

- Approve and authorize the Clerk of the Board to execute, upon receipt, the Fiscal Year 2027-2028 through Fiscal Year 2031-2032 State California Children's Services Certification Statements.

- Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee, to apply for any additional funding opportunity announcements, if available, to support programs and services that improve the health and well-being of children.

QUESTIONS?

Kristen Dimou, MSPT
Branch Chief, California Children's Services
Kristen.Dimou@sdcounty.ca.gov
(619) 246-3059

Porchia R. Lee, MD, MPH, MSW
Medical Director, California Children's Services
PorchiaR.Lee@sdcounty.ca.gov
(619) 540-2270

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

LIVE WELL SAN DIEGO