





The School, Community and You: A Guide for Healthcare Assistance

Medication assistance programs help families who can't afford healthcare get the medicine they need to manage their disease and live healthy.

If you have not applied for Medicaid, your school nurse or social worker can help you apply. Schedule a time with her when she can assist you at school. The school media center has Internet-ready computers that you can work on privately with the social worker's or nurse's help. Rest assured your social worker and school nurse will keep your information private.

Visit www.insurekidsnow.gov to find out if your child is eligible for free or low-cost health insurance. Insure Kids Now! is a national campaign formed to connect uninsured children with an insurance program from the state where you live. If you live in Georgia, you may go directly to PeachCare For Kids, Georgia's insurance program. Visit www.peachcare.org to learn about your eligibility and apply. The application process takes about 10 minutes and also has a Spanish version. You may also call PeachCare For Kids at: 1-877-GA-PEACH (1-877-427-3224).

ELIGIBILITY:

Each state has different rules. Insurance assistance programs in most states will insure children up to age 18, whose families earn up to \$32,000 for a family of three. Eligibility varies, so check it out!

If your family does not qualify for free or low-cost health insurance, don't give up! Other programs are available to help families who do not qualify for Medicaid. Contact other sources for healthcare/medication assistance, which include:

Partnership for Prescription Assistance

This organization will help you access more than 475 public and private patient assistance programs and more than 2,500 medications. First, you must answer a short questionnaire to display programs for which your child may qualify. Next, you

can complete one application that will apply to several programs at once. Visit **www.pparx.org** to view its programs and apply. Partnership for Prescription Assistance may also be contacted toll-free at 1-888-4APPA-NOW (1-888-477-2669).

Patient Advocacy Agencies

Many patient advocacy agencies throughout the U.S. are partners with Partnership for Prescription Assistance. For example, the American Diabetes Association provides help for diabetic patients. To view all companies involved with Partnership for Prescription Assistance, visit www.pparx.org/ViewCompanies.php. Once you select a company, you will find contact information, resources, eligibility and products covered by its program. For prescription assistance programs in Georgia, visit www.pparxga.org.

Pharmaceutical Companies

Visit the web site of the company that makes the medication your child needs. Many pharmaceutical companies offer medications for free or a discounted price. If you are unsure about the maker of your child's medication, ask your school nurse or search the internet for the medication you need.

Your Local Pharmacy

Check your local pharmacy for prescription drug programs available for families and children. In one program, you can pay \$4.00 per prescription. This program is offered at, but not limited to, Kroger, Target and Wal-Mart. You are eligible for this program whether or not you have any prescription-drug coverage through your company, under Medicare or any other plan. Talk to your local pharmacist, or go online. For example, a list of medications offered at Wal-Mart can be found at www.walmart.com/catalog, click on Pharmacy, then select \$4 prescriptions.

CHILDREN'S HEALTHCARE OF ATLANTA www.choa.org/buildingbridges