

EPSDT Program



Utah Medicaid Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment Benefit

Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) services are available at no cost to Medicaid members from birth through the month of their 21st birthday.

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EPSDT Program Goal:

- The right care, to the right child, at the right time, in the right setting.

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Benefits Include

- Well-child check-ups performed throughout a child's development:
 - Preventative Physical Exams
 - Hearing and Vision Screenings
 - Mental Health Care
 - Immunizations

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Other Services Covered When Medically Necessary

- Health Screenings
- Physical Exams
- Vaccines
- Labs/Imaging
- Education about Health Topics
- Hearing Tests
- Dental Screenings and Preventative Care
- Vision Screenings
- Mental Health Screenings and Services
- Durable Medical Equipment and Medical Supplies
- Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy
- Interpretative Services
- Medical Transportation

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The EPSDT Manual was updated in September.

Changes Include:

- Inaccurate and/or outdated policy information has been removed or revised
- Additional state/federal program information has been added that may apply to members eligible for EPSDT benefits

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- Additional services that are covered by Utah Medicaid for EPSDT eligible members but have not been detailed in historic versions of the manual have been added including:
 - Non-emergency medical transportation services
 - Interpreter Services
 - Medical appointment assistance and appointment follow-up services provided by local health departments

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Next Steps

- Website Update
 - Make it easier to navigate
 - Include more details about services
 - Include direction to access other available services
- EPSDT Program Flyer
 - Providing members and providers with detailed information about the EPSDT program

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CMS Guidance:

- In September 2024 CMS released best practice guidance for the EPSDT program
- They focused on three items:
 - Promoting EPSDT Awareness and Accessibility
 - Expanding and Using the Child-Focused (EPSDT) Workforce
 - Improving Care for Children with Specialized Needs

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Promoting EPSDT Awareness Best Practices

- Use clear language when informing policies
- Have transportation app
- Offer scheduling assistance
- Care coordination
- Provide EPSDT training
- Work with MCE's to implement best practices

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Expanding and Using the Children-Focused (EPSDT) Workforce Best Practices

- Incorporate Oral health into primary care visits
- Enroll out-of-state providers
- Adopt the Collaborative Care Model (CoCM) for interprofessional consultation
- Review Payment Methodologies - explore using differential rates

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Improving Care for Children with Specialized Needs Best Practices

- Create a seamless and comprehensive behavioral health system for children
- Managed care plans assign a liaison and trauma-informed care manager to children in foster care
- Coordinate programs for children with disabilities or other complex health needs and provide them with a broad range of non-medical services.

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Questions