

CHAMP**H-300****H-310 GENERAL INFORMATION**

As a result of The Sixth Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986, Louisiana implemented the Child Health and Maternity Program (CHAMP) in January, 1989, which provides Medicaid benefits to:

- Pregnant women, and
- Children, who are under age 19, *and* meet income and non-financial eligibility criteria.

There are no resource eligibility requirements for CHAMP.

FITAP cash applications are not required before CHAMP eligibility can be considered. Program options must be explained as follows:

- **FITAP** benefits include a cash grant and full Medicaid coverage,
- **LIFC** provides full Medicaid coverage without a cash grant, and
- CHAMP provides:
 - Pregnant woman -- coverage limited to prenatal care, delivery, and 60-day postpartum care.
 - Children -- full Medicaid coverage.

H-310.1 *Reserved***H-310.2 **Pregnant Women (PW)****

Eligibility for a CHAMP Pregnant Woman may begin:

- at any time during a pregnancy, and
- as early as three months prior to the month of application.

Eligibility cannot begin before the first month of pregnancy.

Note:

The CHAMP certification may extend through the calendar month in which the 60-day postpartum period ends.

An applicant whose pregnancy terminated in the month of application or in one of the 3 months prior without the delivery of a viable infant shall be considered a Pregnant Woman for the purpose of determining eligibility in CHAMP.

Certify from the earliest possible month of eligibility (up to three months prior to application) through the month in which the 60-day postpartum period ends. Retroactive eligibility shall be explored regardless of current eligibility status. If not currently eligible explore retroactive eligibility.

If the applicant is eligible for any of the three prior months, she remains eligible throughout the pregnancy and 60-day postpartum period. When determining retroactive eligibility actual income received in the month of determination shall be used.

H-310.2 **Continued****Example:**

Mrs. applies in June, which is her fifth month of pregnancy. Her income in June exceeds the allowable *income*, however, in March she had no income. Certify effective March through the month in which the 60-day postpartum period ends.

If application is made after the month the postpartum period ends, the entire period of eligibility must be retroactive. Eligibility may not extend past the month in which the postpartum period ends.

The applicant must be income eligible during the initial month of eligibility only. Changes in income after the initial month will not affect eligibility.

Coverage

Coverage is limited to:

- prenatal care,
- delivery,
- 60 days postpartum care, and
- conditions which may complicate pregnancy.

Note:

Any condition a pregnant woman has could affect her health and subsequently the outcome of the pregnancy. This decision is made by the provider of medical services.

H-310.3 CHAMP Child

Children *****under age 19***, are eligible for CHAMP if they meet all requirements of the program.

A child's eligibility for CHAMP is determined independently of the mother's coverage as a CHAMP Pregnant Woman.

A licensed adoption agency or adoptive parents may apply for a child on or after the effective date of the surrender to the agency and/or placement with adoptive parents.

Explore retroactive eligibility for the three months prior to the month of application. Refer to H-1800, Retroactive Medical Eligibility.

Relationship is not an eligibility factor.

Coverage

A CHAMP child is eligible for the full range of Medicaid covered services.

H-311 PAP EXCLUSIONS FROM CHAMP

Medicaid regulations prohibit budgeting income of a stepparent, grandparent, or sibling or any other person not legally responsible for a child in determining that child's Medicaid eligibility.

Exclude the following persons and their income from the income unit when their income causes ineligibility for CHAMP:

- a stepparent in determining a stepchild's eligibility.
- the sibling(s) of dependent child(ren) in determining the dependent child(ren)'s eligibility, or
- a MUM's parent in determining the grandchild's eligibility.

After excluding the income of a stepparent, sibling, or MUM's parent, the otherwise eligible child or pregnant woman is certified for CHAMP.

Siblings excluded under PAP because of income shall be considered for CHAMP related MNP.

Examples of PAP Exclusions from CHAMP:**Example #1 (stepparent):**

Mr. and Mrs. X, their child Z, and her child Y, applied for CHAMP. Z is three years old and Y is seven years old. Mr.'s income is higher than the 100% income standard for four persons, but lower than the 133% income standard for four persons. Since Mr. X is Y's stepparent, Mr. X's income must be excluded in determining Y's eligibility for CHAMP. The income unit for Z remains four persons, at 133%. The income unit for Y is three persons at 100% (excluding the stepparent and his income).

Example #2 (sibling):

Aunt M applies for CHAMP for her nephews N and R, who are half-siblings (different fathers) and whose mother is deceased. N receives RSDI based on his deceased father's earnings, but R has no income. Because N's income would make R ineligible, it is mandatory that N be excluded from the CHAMP income unit. After R is certified for CHAMP, N shall be considered for MNP Spend-down.