

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT
STATE/TERRITORY: Georgia
CHILDREN AT-RISK CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

A. Target Group:

Individuals 0-21 years of age and their Medicaid eligible siblings or offspring who are "at-risk" of not completing a secondary education program because they exhibit three or more of the following characteristics:

1. Within the low socio-economic level as evidenced by participation in the free or reduced lunch program, have parents who are unemployed, or employed but with frequent difficulties in money management.
2. Within a minority population or experiencing difficulties with cultural competencies or language proficiencies.
3. No Health Check initial screening or lack of ongoing medical care/health maintenance.
4. Low achievement test scores, (35th percentile and below on ITBS, TAP), low grades, (failing two or more academic subjects in a grading period), or repeated two or more grades.
5. Frequent absences, tardies or school transfers.
6. Frequent disciplinary referrals or suspensions.
7. Frequent physical complaints, low self-concept, or expresses feelings of lack of control of life.
8. Minimal social interaction with peers, limited extra curricular involvement, alienation from school with a potential to drop out.
9. History of substance abuse, Juvenile Court involvement, or at risk for sexually transmitted disease or children with family members identified as substance abusers and/or having involvement with the legal system..

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A. Target Group (continued)

10. History of exposure to direct or indirect violence.
11. History of sexual or physical abuse or neglect.
12. Dysfunctional home situation.
13. Born to a teenage mother or single parent.
14. Infants born prematurely and experiencing developmental delays.
15. Infants exhibiting developmental delays as a result of birth related trauma or genetic disorders.
16. Both parents with less than a high school education.
17. Inadequate utilities or household appliances.
18. Parent has a history of incarceration or is currently incarcerated.

B. Areas of State in which services will be provided:

Entire State.

Only in the following geographic areas (authority of Section 1915(g)(1) of the Act is invoked to provide services less than statewide):

Hall County

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C. Comparability of Services

Services are provided in accordance with Section 1902(a)(10)(B) of the Act.

Services are not comparable in amount, duration, and scope. Authority of Section 1915(g)(1) of the Act is invoked to provide services without regard to the requirements of Section 1902(a)(10)(B) of the Act.

D. Definition of Services

Children at-risk case management is a set of interrelated activities for identifying, coordinating, and reviewing the delivery of appropriate services for eligible at-risk children. The purpose of case management services is to assist those targeted at-risk children in gaining access to needed medical, nutritional, social, educational, transportation, housing, and other services; and to encourage the use of various community resources through referral to appropriate providers. Case management services will provide necessary coordination with the providers of health, family support, employment, justice, housing, counseling, nutrition, social, educational, transportation, and other services when needed.

The set of interrelated activities are as follows:

1. Establishing the comprehensive case file for development and implementation of an individualized service plan to meet the assessed service needs of the eligible child. Establishing priorities for initial linkages with providers. This unit of service may be billed only once for each eligible child.
2. Assistance to the eligible child in locating needed service providers and making the necessary linkages to assure the receipt of services identified in the service plan.
3. Monitoring and follow-up with the eligible child and service providers to determine that the services received are adequate in meeting the child's assessed needs. Case management follow-up services are limited to 12 visits annually.
4. Reassessment of eligible children to determine the services needed to resolve any crisis situation resulting from divorce, death, separation, family structure changes, changes in living conditions, or other events.

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E. Qualification of Providers

1. Provider Qualifications

Enrollment will be accomplished in accordance with Section 1902(a)(23) of the Act. Enrollment is open to all providers who can meet with following requirements:

- a. Must have qualified case manager(s) and the capacity to provide the full range of at-risk case management services.
- b. Must meet the applicable state and federal laws governing the participation of providers in the Medicaid program.
- c. Must have demonstrated direct experience in the coordination of educational support services (e.g., EPSDT, Social Services, Counseling Services, Psychological Services, Student Assistance, Special Education, and Nutritional Services).
- d. Must have demonstrated the ability to obtain collaboration between public and private services providers.
- e. In order to avoid duplication of services and to promote effective community level networking, case management providers must have signed a collaborative agreement with the Hall County Health Department/Health District, Hall County Department of Family and Children Services, Hall County Juvenile Court, Hall County School System, Gainesville City Schools, Mental Health, Hall County Commissioners United Way of Hall County, Division of Children and Youth Services, Ninth District Opportunity, Piedmont Migrant Education Agency, and consumer representatives.
- f. Case Management Supervisors must hold a Bachelor's Degree in a human services field, i.e., psychology, sociology, social work, humanities, counseling, career services and have two years of supervisory experience working with low income indigenous children and their families.
- g. Case Managers must hold a high school diploma or equivalent and have two years of experience working with at risk children and their families.

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1. Provider Qualifications (continued)
 - h. Both the Case Management Supervisor(s) and Case Manager(s) must complete a pre-service training program and a Family Connection designed and supervised practicum experience.

- F. The state assures that the provision of case management services will not restrict an individual's free choice of providers in violation of Section 1902(a)(23) of the Act.
 1. Eligible recipients will have free choice of the providers of case management services.
 2. Eligible recipients will have free choice of the providers of other medical care under the plan.

- G. Payment for case management services under the plan does not duplicate payments made to public agencies or private entities under other program authorities for this same purpose. Reimbursement methodology is found on Attachment 4.19-B, pages 5d and 5e.

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