

# Helpful Websites:

## Information on Public Assistance Benefits

If you have questions about the Medically Needy Program or other Public Assistance benefits, want to see a list of our service centers, fax numbers or apply for benefits, visit our website: [www.dcf.state.fl.us/ess/](http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/ess/)

Medical Coverage for Children under age 19:

Florida KidCare at  
[www.Floridakidcare.org](http://www.Floridakidcare.org) or  
Florida Healthy Kids at  
[www.healthykids.org](http://www.healthykids.org)

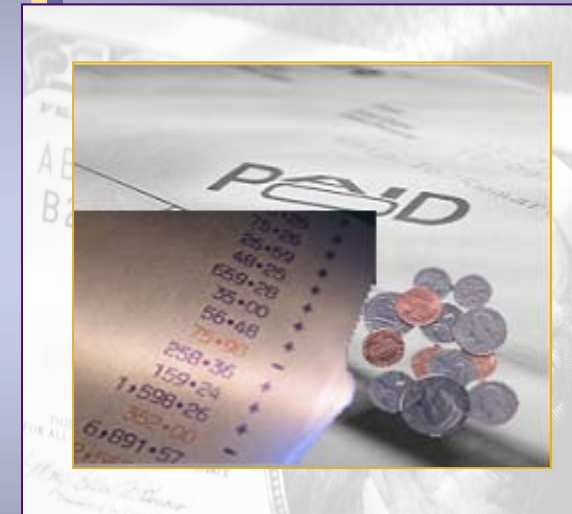
The following websites provide information on various programs for free or low cost prescriptions for certain medications:

[www.benefitscheckup.org](http://www.benefitscheckup.org)  
[www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)  
[www.pparx.org](http://www.pparx.org)  
[www.needymeds.com](http://www.needymeds.com)  
[www.rxassist.org](http://www.rxassist.org)  
[www.aarp.org/fl](http://www.aarp.org/fl)  
[www.togetherrxaccess.com](http://www.togetherrxaccess.com)  
[www.nacds.org](http://www.nacds.org)

You may contact the Elder Helpline at (800) 963-5337.



# Medically Needy Program



## An Explanation of “Share of Cost”

## What is the Medically Needy Program?

A Medicaid program for people who have too much income or assets are over the limits for Medicaid, Some people call it the “share of cost” program. The Department of Children & Families (DCF) determines eligibility for the Medically Needy Program.

## What is a “share of cost”?

A share of cost is the amount of medical bills that you must owe or have paid before Medicaid can pay any of your current unpaid medical bills. Your share of cost is based on your family’s monthly income.

If we estimate your share of cost based on your statement of your monthly income, the income must be verified before Medicaid can pay any bills. The share of cost may change when your income changes.

## How does the “share of cost” work?

Each month certain medical expenses you owe or have paid in the last 3 months are counted toward your share of cost. When your allowable medical expenses are equal to your share of cost, you are eligible for Medicaid for the rest of that month.

**Here is an example:** Your share of cost is \$800. You go to the hospital on May 10 and send us the bill for \$1000. You have met the share of cost and are Medicaid eligible from May 10<sup>th</sup> through May 31. Medicaid will pay the \$1000 medical bill. **This is only an example.**

## Some examples of medical expenses that can be used to meet the “share of cost”

- Unpaid medical bills you owe that have not been used to meet your share of cost before.
- Medical bills you paid within the last 3 months.
- Medical bills that will not be paid by health insurance or any other source.
- Health insurance premiums.
- Co-payments for medical bills.
- Medical services prescribed by a doctor.
- Transportation by ambulance, bus or taxi to get medical care.

## Some examples of medical expenses that *cannot* be used to meet the “share of cost”

- Premiums for insurance policies that pay you money when you are in the hospital or the payment is not intended to pay for medical expenses.
- First aid supplies and over the counter supplies such as adhesive bandages, alcohol, cold remedies, etc.

## Whose medical expenses can be used to meet the “share of cost”?

Any family member whose income is counted, even if the person is not eligible for Medicaid.

## More information about the “share of cost”

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[www.dcf.state.fl.us/ess/](http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/ess/)

## What to do when you meet the “share of cost”

Provide proof of medical expenses to a DCF ACCESS office by fax, mail or in person.

### Include:

- Your name and case number
- The amount of the expense
- The date the expense was incurred and
- The date and amount of any payments that you have made for the expense.

### Examples of proof you can provide:

- Medical bills you have received
- Receipts for paid medical bills and
- Cancelled checks for paid medical bills.

## What services are covered by Medicaid?

The Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) can provide more information on what services Medicaid will cover, as well as the doctors, pharmacists and hospitals that accept Medicaid.

Contact the local AHCA Area Office or visit their website at [www.fdhc.state.fl.us](http://www.fdhc.state.fl.us).

## Important Information

Some Medical providers do not accept Medicaid and some do not accept the Medically Needy Program. Even after you contact AHCA for information about doctors and services, remember to tell your provider before you make an appointment that you are on the Medically Needy Program.