



CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

A Voice for Washington's Children, Youth & Families

Working Together to Protect Apple Health for Kids

What is Apple Health for Kids?

Apple Health for Kids is a comprehensive health insurance plan for children in Washington State. **All children who live in families with incomes below 300% of the federal poverty level (FPL) are eligible for coverage.** Families share in the cost of coverage, and families earning over 200% FPL pay an affordable, sliding scale premium for coverage.

Apple Health for Kids is a successful and popular program that meets the needs of families and generates millions of dollars each year in flexible federal funding for the state.

Advocates, doctors, families, teachers and legislators all came together and worked for years to advocate with state legislators to pass the Cover All Kids law. It passed in 2007, and Washington State created the Apple Health for Kids program.

What is happening to Apple Health for Kids now?

The tough economic times are impacting families' budgets and the state's budget as well. Our state Governor and state legislators have the job of balancing the state budget.

The Governor has proposed a cut to Apple Health for Kids that would throw 27,000 children off of coverage and leave them without access to affordable health insurance.

The only way it is possible for this cut to happen is if state legislators pass changes to the Cover All Kids law. The cut can not go into effect unless the State House and State Senate both pass a bill to change to the Cover All Kids law, and the governor signs it.

How does this affect my family?

Children who currently have coverage through Apple Health for Kids still have the same health coverage. This insurance will continue unless the law changes who is eligible to get coverage through Apple Health for Kids.

What can we do to protect Apple Health for Kids?

Anyone who supports health coverage for children can help ensure that our legislators protect Apple Health for Kids for all children. You can help by sharing a story of how the program has helped you and your family and by speaking up for health coverage for all children.

To share your story, or learn more about what you can do to protect Apple Health for Kids, contact Emijah Smith at Emijah@childrensalliance.org at 1.800.854.KIDS x25. Si quiere información en español, llame a Siobhan (shován) 800.854.5437 x13, o siobhan@childrensalliance.org.

For information about eligibility for Apple Health for Kids or questions about health coverage call 1.877.543.7669 or go to the Apple Health for Kids website <http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/applehealth/index.shtml>.

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