

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT LAWFULLY RESIDING IMMIGRANT CHILDREN AND RITE CARE

**Effective April 1, 2010, most lawfully present immigrant children¹
are eligible for Medical Assistance
(including Rite Care, Rite Share and Katie Beckett).**

Children who are lawful permanent residents (green card holders)
no longer have to wait five years to apply for coverage (no five year bar).

Children in other immigration categories, such as temporary protected status (TPS)
and deferred enforced departure (DED), also are eligible.

Children must be under age 19 and otherwise eligible for Medical Assistance.

Notes

- Medical Assistance coverage for parents is available for lawful permanent residents who have been in that status for at least 5 years.
- Medical Assistance coverage is not available for children who are undocumented.

Families who would like help applying for Rite Care/Rite Share can contact a Family Resource Counselor (FRC).

- FRCs help families apply for Rite Care/Rite Share. FRCs explain the application, help with paperwork and help solve problems with applications that may arise. FRC services are offered free of charge.
- FRCs also screen families for other benefit programs, such as cash assistance, SNAP (Food Stamps), WIC and child care assistance.
- FRCs cannot actually enroll children in Rite Care/Rite Share. The FRCs send the application to the Rhode Island Department of Human Services, which processes the application and determines whether children (and parents) are eligible. FRCs cannot recommend a Rite Care health plan.
- Some FRCs offer evening appointments and some speak languages other than English.
- Call for an appointment. FRCs are located at community health centers and hospitals across Rhode Island. To find an FRC, call the Rhode Island Health Center Association at (401) 274-1771 ext. 217. FRC lists also are available at www.rihca.org and www.dhs.ri.gov.

¹ Children and parents who are refugees or asylees have been and continue to be eligible for Medical Assistance.