

Participant Safeguards

Children / medical consenters who wish to apply to B2H have certain individual rights that are supported by OCFS.

Children have the right to:

- be treated with consideration and respect;
- be informed of their rights before receiving any waiver services;
- be offered the assistance of a translator to interpret the information regarding B2H waivers;
- receive services without regard to race, color, creed, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, or disability; and
- have services provided that support their health and welfare.

How Do I Apply?

Contact information for your local department of social services (LDSS) can be obtained via the OCFS website:

www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/localdss.asp

For New York City, please contact New York City Administration for Children's Services (ACS) at 212-341-2743 to discuss the enrollment process and eligibility criteria.

For children in the custody of the Office of Children & Family Services (OCFS), please contact the child's Community Service Team worker for further information.

**BRIDGES TO HEALTH
MEDICAID WAIVER
CONSULTATION LINE
1-888-250-1832**



**Bureau of Waiver Management
Capital View Office Park
52 Washington Street
Rensselaer, NY 12144-2796**

**Visit our website at:
www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/b2h**

**Bridges to Health Consultation
Line: 1-888-250-1832**

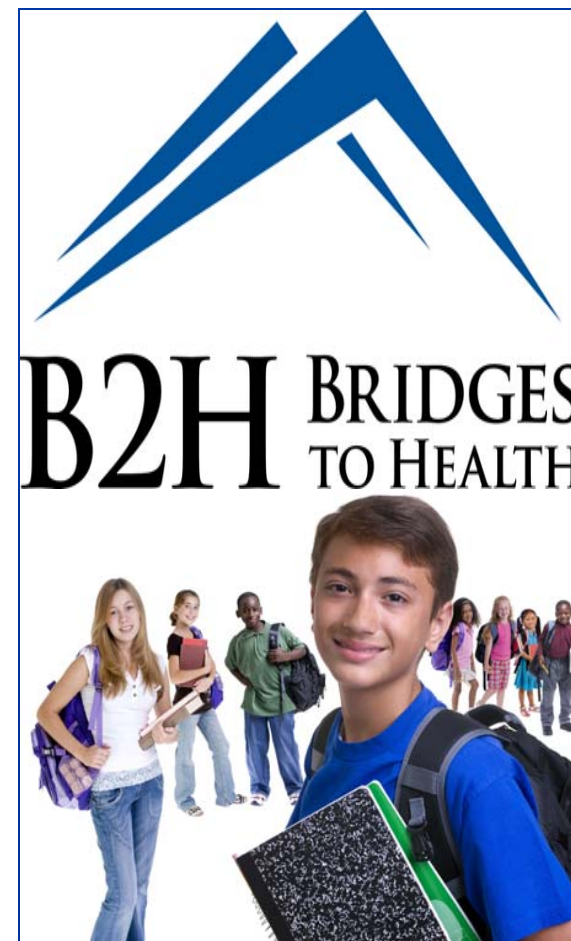
**Bureau of Waiver Management:
518-486-9452**

Fax: 518-408-3311



State of New York

Pub. 5095 (Rev. 3/10)



**HOME AND
COMMUNITY-BASED
SERVICES
MEDICAID WAIVER
PROGRAM**

What Is the Bridges to Health Medicaid Waiver Program?

The Bridges to Health (B2H) Home and Community-Based Medicaid Waiver Program provides opportunities for improving the health and well-being of children in foster care or Community Services supervision. Children may continue receiving B2H services beyond their foster care placement up to the age of 21 as long as they are eligible.

The purpose of B2H is to avoid or delay medical institutional care and provide enhanced services to children with disabilities. B2H services are provided to the child, family and caregivers, including birth, foster and adoptive parents and siblings.

B2H consists of three waivers: B2H for children with Serious Emotional Disturbances (SED), B2H for children with Developmental Disabilities (DD), and B2H for Medically Fragile (MedF) children—designed to provide community-based health care services and supports to children in foster care or Community Services supervision.



What Services Are Available?

B2H services are tailored to meet a child's specific health care needs; they complement, but do not duplicate, services provided through other programs. B2H offers the following 14 services:

1. Health Care Integration
2. Family/Caregiver Supports and Services
3. Skill Building
4. Day Habilitation
5. Special Needs Community Advocacy and Support
6. Pre-vocational Services
7. Supported Employment
8. Planned Respite
9. Crisis Avoidance, Management and Training
10. Immediate Crisis Response Services
11. Intensive In-home Supports
12. Crisis Respite
13. Adaptive and Assistive Equipment
14. Accessibility Modifications

Who Is Eligible?

To be eligible to participate in B2H, a child must:

- be in the custody of the commissioner of the local department of social services (LDSS) / New York City Administration for Children's Services (ACS), or New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS);
- be Medicaid eligible;
- have a qualifying diagnosis; and
- be able to benefit from the service.

Since the number of "slots" statewide is limited, applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, and the child may be placed on a waiting list.

Who Provides B2H Services?

Health Care Integration Agencies (HCIAs): HCIAs are child care agencies with demonstrated experience in providing an array of supplemental services for children in out-of-home care. HCIAs work in conjunction with the local departments of social services (LDSS) that retain responsibility for making referrals, eligibility determinations, and enrollment decisions.

Health Care Integrators (HCIs) and Waiver Service Providers (WSPs): HCIs are care management staff employed by the HCIAs who have the primary responsibility for the child's health care coordination and administration of the plan of care. The WSPs are either under contract with HCIAs or are employees of those HCIAs and provide services other than Health Care Integration.