

Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC)

*"Serving Illinois Children with
Special Health Care Needs"*

Established in 1937

- DSCC is Illinois Title V agency for specialized treatment and rehabilitation of children with certain chronic physical disabilities and health impairments.
- The agency is administered by the University of Illinois at Chicago with Regional Offices throughout the state.



DSCC Care Coordination Teams

- Work with the family and health care professionals to help children with disabilities, and those who have conditions which may lead to disabilities, reach their full potential.
- Provide, promote and coordinate family centered, community-based care for eligible children with special health care needs.



DSCC Care Coordination Teams

DSCC serves children
statewide through
11 Regional offices



What conditions are medically eligible for service?

*A child must have a treatable chronic
condition in one of the following categories:*

- Orthopedic conditions
(bone, muscle, joint disease)
- Heart defects
- Hearing loss
- Neurological conditions
(nerve, brain, spinal cord)



Continued...

Other DSCC Eligible Conditions:

- Cystic Fibrosis
- Eye Impairments
- Hemophilia
- Inborn Errors of Metabolism
- Organic Speech Impairments
- Urinary Impairments
- External Body Impairments
(cleft lip/palate, ear deformities, and
many more)

DSCC only provides *specialized* medical care and services.

DSCC cannot provide help for:

- Acute childhood illnesses or injuries
- Routine dental care
- Well-child care
- Immunizations
- School physical examinations
- Treatment which is experimental or investigational

Determining eligibility for DSCC services:

- The general application, financial forms and medical reports must be completed and reviewed by DSCC staff to determine DSCC eligibility.
- Must meet general eligibility: age, residency, citizenship
- If the child has an eligible medical condition, DSCC can provide care coordination services.
- If the family meets the financial eligibility criteria, DSCC can assist with payment for specialized medical treatment.

How does DSCC help if the child's diagnosis is unknown?

- Any Illinois child (birth to age 21) may qualify for a "no-cost" to family diagnostic evaluation if it is **suspected that a DSCC eligible medical condition exists.**
- DSCC will arrange a diagnostic evaluation to determine if the child has an eligible medical condition.
- DSCC will also support diagnostic evaluation for newborns who are referred following newborn screening

Care Coordination - If the child
has an eligible
medical condition, we will:

- Provide a family centered approach through care coordination teams
- Facilitate communication between family and providers
- Advocate for families across settings
- Provide information about medical conditions, local resources, and transition planning

Care Coordination - Transition
Planning

Helping families and youth:

- Plan for the future
- Build independence skills
- Learn about the options for finances, health care, self-care, education, living arrangements, social/recreational activities, employment/vocational training.

Care Coordination and Medical
Home

- The PCP is available to the family when needed
- Considers the whole family's needs as they impact the child
- Coordinates care for all services: info about, and referrals to community resources, referrals to other specialists
- Treats the family as an equal partner and decision maker

Care Coordination and Medical Home

DSCC works to strengthen the family/PCP/DSCC relationship by:

- Raising families' awareness about MH relationship
- Raising PCP's awareness of DSCC services and Medical Home approach
- Working with Quality Improvement Teams to increase "Medical Homeness"

Care Coordination: We Can Help!

DSCC Care Coordination staff are:

- Nurses
- Social Workers
- Audiologists
- Speech- Language Pathologists
- Program Coordinator Assistants

How does DSCC help financially eligible children?

- Assists families to maximize insurance and other resources
- DSCC: Application Agent for AllKids, requires/assists families to use AllKids
- Assists with insurance co-pays
- Serves as payor of last resort
- Reimburses for transportation/lodging to help increase access to medical care
- Provides care coordination to minimize duplicative services

How does DSCC help financially eligible children?

Provides financial support and assistance in obtaining medical services, such as:

- Specialty physicians
- Therapy services (OT, PT, Speech)
- Hospitalizations
- Audiology services

How does DSCC help financially eligible children?

Provides financial support and assistance in obtaining medical equipment, such as:

- Braces and splints
- Hearing aids
- Wheelchairs
- Ramps and lifts
- Medical supplies

How to Refer a child:

- Call 1-800-322-3722 to find out the regional office you should call or visit us on-line at <http://dsccl.uic.edu/>
- Child's county or zip code is needed.
- When calling the regional office, state you would like to make a referral.
- Provide needed info: address, phone number, parent's name, etc.
- DSCC will mail an application to the family within 5 working days.
