

FUNDING OPTIONS IN VIRGINIA

INSURANCE OPTIONS

*Beginning January 1, 2012, Virginia will implement the autism insurance mandate. The mandate does not apply to individual or small group policies, plans or contracts, companies with less than 50 employees nor state employee insurance. The mandate states that insurance companies have to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in individuals from age 2 to 6, subject to an annual maximum benefit of \$35,000 of coverage for applied behavior analysis. Treatment for ASD includes applied behavior analysis when provided or supervised by a board certified behavior analyst, who shall be licensed.

1. PRIVATE INSURANCE

Check with your individual provider on coverage limits for treatment services like speech therapy, occupational therapy, ABA, and more. If you do not yet have insurance some local insurance companies are: Anthem Blue Cross, Aetna, Coventry, Optima and United Healthcare.

2. FAMILY ACCESS TO MEDICAL INSURANCE SECURITY PLAN (FAMIS)

FAMIS is a low cost medical insurance program for children of working families in Virginia. Based on income, families with uninsured children may enroll in FAMIS. This program covers families that do not qualify for Medicaid. Contact 866-873-2647 or visit www.famis.org

FEDERAL/STATE FUNDING

1. MEDICAID

Medical assistance pays for medical expenses and some services in the community for certain people who are blind, aged, and/or disabled. Individuals must meet income and asset guidelines. Contact your local department of social services or the statewide information and referral system 1-800-230-6977

2. WAIVERS: MEDICAID HOME & COMMUNITY BASED SERVICE WAIVERS

The Medicaid Waiver Technical Assistance Center provides information, materials, workshops, and advocacy meetings about the Virginia Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services. It is administered by the Endependence Center in Norfolk. For individual assistance, information, and MENTORS on Virginia Medicaid Waivers, contact the Technical Assistance Center, Phone: (866) 323-1088 or (757) 461-8007 (Norfolk); E-mail: VaWaivers@endependence.org

Intellectual Disabilities (ID) Waiver – *Who's Eligible:* birth to 6 y.o. with developmental delay; 6 y.o. and older who have diagnosis of intellectual disability (mental retardation) ; *Screening Request:* local Community Service Board (CSB)

Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver – *Who's Eligible:* individuals 6 and older with development delay who do not have diagnosis of mental retardation/intellectual disability; *Screening Request form:* DMAS (804) 786-1465, <http://dmasva.dmas.virginia.gov/>

Elderly and Disabled (E&D) Waiver – *Who's Eligible:* individuals 65 and older and/or who are DISABLED (any age) and meet level of care requirements for admissions to a nursing facility; *Screening Request:* the Nursing Home Pre-Admission Team at local departments of Health and Social Services or a hospital's discharge planner

3. EPSDT – Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment

EPSDT is available to children under the age 21 who are eligible for Medicaid and/or Medicaid Waiver. Personal care, nursing, therapies, and other Medicaid services not typically provided to adults are available to children. Contact: local department of Social Services or the Statewide Information and Referral System, (800) 230-6977

4. SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Children under the age of 18 can qualify if he/she meets Social Security's definition of disability (marked and severe functional limitations) for children and if his/her income and resources fall with the eligibility limits. Contact 800-772-1213 or visit www.socialsecurity.gov

5. CARE CONNECTION FOR CHILDREN (CCC)

CCC is a program for children under the age of 21 who have a physically based medical condition that has lasted or is expected to last up to 12 months. Uninsured or underinsured children receiving services with CCC may be eligible for the Children with Special Health Care Needs Pool of Funds, which may pay for medications, therapies, diagnostic evaluations, medical equipment and hospitalization. CCC is comprised of six regional programs that offer information and referral and care coordination services. Contact 804-864-7706 or visit www.vahealth.org/specialchildren/ccsprogram.asp

FINANCIAL SERVICES THROUGH STATE FUNDED PROGRAMS

1. EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM: INFANT AND TODDLER CONNECTION

A system of services and supports designed to promote the greatest possible developmental outcomes for Virginia's infants and toddlers (birth to age 3) with developmental delays or disabilities. The system has been established in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part C – Early Intervention. Administered by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) through your local Community Services Board (CSB). Contact: (800) 234-1448, Website: www.infantva.org

2. VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (VDOE) – Office of Special Education and Student Services – funds and provides special education programs for children with

disabilities, ages 2 (second birthday falls on or before Sept. 30) through 21 (who have not reached 22 on or before Sept. 30) (2-21 inclusive). These services may be provided in a general education or special education classroom, home, hospital, separate school, or other setting. Website: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/special_ed/index.shtml

- 3. VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATIVE SERVICES (DRS)**- DRS provides services to individuals with disabilities across Virginia to become more independent and self-sufficient. Services include employment and vocational, assistive technology, community based services, independent living services, and disability determination. Contact: 1-800-552-5019 or Website: www.vadrs.org

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 1. Act Today**
*grant \$100-\$5,000 that covers ABA, Speech, Occupational, Social Programs, AIT, Fencing for home, Medications & bio-medical treatment www.act-today.org/grants.html
- 2. Autism Family Resources**
*\$500 grant that covers therapy equipment, safety equipment or respite care www.autismfamilyresources.org/needassistance2.htm
- 3. Autism Society Award Scholarship**
*CVS/All Kids Can Scholars Program that offers \$1,000 scholarship to individual with autism to be applied toward postsecondary or vocational program of study (college, trade school etc..) www.autism-society.org/site/PageServer?pagename=asa_awards
- 4. College Funding for Students with Disabilities**
www.washington.edu/doit/Brochures/Academics/financial-aid.html
- 5. National Autism Association**
* Grant of \$1,500 that covers tuition, medication/supplements, medical evaluation, testing & therapies. www.nationalautismassociation.org/helpinghand.php
- 6. Neighbor Heart**
www.neighborheart.org/grants.asp
- 7. Schwallie Family Scholarship**
*OAR provides \$3,000 scholarship to be used toward postsecondary or vocational program (4 yr college, 2yr college or trade/technical/vocational school) www.researchautism.org/news/otherevents/scholarships.asp
- 8. United Healthcare**
*grant that covers for medical expenses that insurance does not www.uhccf.org/apply_applicant.html

