

# Skilled nursing assistance for children with complex medical conditions

## What kind of nursing assistance is available for children?

Molina Healthcare offers in-home skilled nursing services. Our Medically Intensive Children's Program (MICP), also known as Private Duty Nursing, supports skilled nursing services for children ages 17 and younger. These children have complex medical needs that require a specially-trained nurse to provide support. Nursing services may be provided in the family home, foster homes, contracted medically intensive children's groups, and staffed residential homes.

This Medicaid program helps keep families together. It also greatly reduces the need for inpatient hospital stays. Without this program, children would be confined to the hospital to ensure they were getting the specialized care they needed.

## Who is eligible?

To qualify for nursing assistance, children must:

- Be age 17 or younger
- Have complex medical needs (examples: ventilator-dependent, tracheostomy care, etc.)
- Be enrolled in Molina through Washington Apple Health (Medicaid)
- Require at least four hours of continuous skilled nursing care per day

## Who can families contact for information and program support?

If your child is enrolled with Molina, please contact:

Molina Care Management  
(800) 869-7175, ext. 142618

or Molina Member Services  
(800) 869-7165, TTY 711  
Translation services are available

## If you need additional assistance in getting private duty nurses:

Please contact the Health Care Authority (HCA) Medical Assistance Customer Service Center at (800) 562-3022.

## What are individuals' rights regarding private duty nursing services under Medicaid?

The Americans with Disabilities Act gives you or your child the right to receive your Medicaid services in your home or community—and not in a hospital or institution—if possible.



[MolinaHealthcare.com](https://www.MolinaHealthcare.com)



Your Extended Family.

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MRC PART #19-4284

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This federal law requires states and Medicaid managed care plans, if applicable, to respond to families' requests for help arranging (directly or through referral) skilled private duty nursing services. Families must get timely access to these services. If you feel that you aren't getting these services in a timely way, or that you aren't getting all of the services that you are authorized to receive because you can't find nurses, you have the right to ask the state or your managed care plan to help you get this nursing.

## Who do families contact for legal assistance?

In September 2015, a group of children receiving Medicaid benefits filed a federal lawsuit against the state. The lawsuit claimed that the state was violating federal Medicaid law and the Americans with Disabilities Act in providing in-home nursing care. In January 2016, a federal judge issued a preliminary injunction against the state, ordering the state to take all actions necessary to provide the required in-home nursing care to the plaintiffs.

In December 2016, the plaintiffs and the state reached a settlement of the lawsuit. The settlement requires the state to take certain actions to increase the level of in-home nursing care for eligible Medicaid clients, including sharing this fact sheet with families. For more information, contact the Northwest Justice Project:

- Telephone: (206) 707-7205
- Online: [www.nwjustice.org/ahr](http://www.nwjustice.org/ahr)

## Who is involved in running MICP?

It is Molina's responsibility to coordinate and authorize private duty nursing services for our members. Molina partners with the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) of the Department of Social and Health Services, and the HCA, as they oversee the program on a state level.

- Molina:
  - Determines clinical eligibility
  - Assesses the child and determines medically necessary services including the specific number of private duty nursing hours
  - Arranges medically necessary services
  - Sends you a written authorization letter
- HCA:
  - Provides oversight of Molina's provision of MICP services
  - Helps families who may have difficulties obtaining private duty nursing services
  - Is responsible for ensuring that children enrolled in Apple Health get the nursing services they need
- DDA:
  - Reviews applications for DDA waiver services
  - Provides DDA waiver services

The mission of Molina Healthcare is to provide quality health care to persons receiving government assistance.

For more information about Molina, visit us at [MolinaHealthcare.com](http://MolinaHealthcare.com).

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