

KATIE BECKETT PROGRAM

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES
NOVEMBER 2020

Brad Turner

Commissioner of the
Department of Intellectual and
Developmental Disabilities

He is also the parent of a 13-
year-old with intellectual and
developmental disabilities who
lives at home.



PRESENTERS

Cara Kumari, DIDD
Assistant Commissioner of
Communications and
External Affairs



Timothy Hickman ,
Deputy Director of Intake
and Enrollment. He leads
the Katie Beckett Program
for DIDD.



PRESENTERS

Patti Killingsworth,
Assistant Commissioner
and Chief of Long-Term
Services and Supports
for TennCare.

She is also the parent of
a child who had life-
long developmental
disabilities and medical
needs.



AGENDA

- Overview of Katie Beckett
- Program Details: Parts A, B, C
- How to Apply
- Next Steps

OVERVIEW OF KATIE BECKETT

WHAT IS THE KATIE BECKETT PROGRAM?

The Katie Beckett program is **for children to get care for their disability or medical needs, even if their parents' income is higher than Medicaid usually allows**

It helps families care for children in their own home rather than a hospital or institution

WHAT IS THE KATIE BECKETT PROGRAM?

It is **named after a child, Katie Beckett**, whose parents advocated for this option: care at home even if a family does not qualify financially for Medicaid



WHAT IS THE KATIE BECKETT PROGRAM?

Tennessee passed legislation in 2018 to create a new standalone Katie Beckett program



WHAT IS THE KATIE BECKETT PROGRAM?

Tennessee families advocated for the program

Thanks to the new law, Tennessee has funding
for up to 3,000 children



IN TENNESSEE, KATIE BECKETT WILL SERVE:

Children younger than age 18

Children who have disabilities or complex medical needs

Children who are not eligible for Medicaid because their parents have too much money (income and/or assets)

- Medicaid usually does not allow you to have more than \$2,000 in assets
- Income limits depend on a child's age and how many people live in the home

ELIGIBILITY

Katie Beckett eligibility is determined, in part, by a medical review called a Pre-Admission Evaluation (PAE)

This helps the state figure out what “level of care” your child needs from the Katie Beckett program

Levels of care are based on a thorough review of the child’s **medical** needs, **behavioral** needs, and **functional** needs

ELIGIBILITY

There are **two levels of care** for Katie Beckett:

- **Institutional** level of care – for children who would qualify to receive care in a medical institution—like a hospital, nursing home, or ICF/IID (intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities), *but want care at home*
- **At Risk** level of care—for children who don't qualify to receive care in a medical institution, but are “at risk” of needing institutional care unless they can get care at home

ELIGIBILITY

TennCare and DIDD created new level of care rules just for children

With input from a “Technical Advisory Group” of:

- Parents of children with complex medical needs and disabilities
- Doctors who take care of children with complex medical needs
- Advocates for children with complex medical needs and disabilities and their families

TN'S LEVELS OF CARE FOR KATIE BECKETT

Institutional – qualifies for Parts A or C.
The most complex needs.

- **Tier 1 Institutional Level of Care:**

- Highest assessed needs
- Tier 1 can be based on medical and/or behavioral support needs
- ***Will be given priority for enrollment**

- **Tier 2 Institutional Level of Care:**

- Needs not as high as Tier 1, still meets institutional level of care
- Tier 2 can be based on medical, behavioral, or functional support needs

At Risk – qualifies for Part B

LEVEL OF CARE CRITERIA

- There is a set of slides for families about level of care. They offer a lot more detail.
- There is also a comprehensive *Katie Beckett Level of Care Guide*.
- Both can be found on the DIDD and TennCare Katie Beckett webpages.
- DIDD Katie Beckett Page:
<https://www.tn.gov/didd/katie-beckett-waiver.html>
- TennCare Katie Beckett Page:
<https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/long-term-services-supports/katie-beckett-waiver.html>

TENNESSEE'S PROGRAM DESIGN

OVERVIEW OF PARTS A, B, C

OVERVIEW

In Tennessee, the new law creates different ways to get services through Katie Beckett:

- **Part A** (for up to 300 children to get Medicaid)
- **Part B** (for up to 2,700 children to get help through DIDD)
- **Part C** (for children who are already on Medicaid to keep their coverage even if their parents' income or assets increase—IF they would qualify for Part A but there isn't a Part A slot for them)

PART A

PART A

Part A is for children with the most significant disabilities or complex medical needs.

These are children who would qualify to receive care in a medical institution *but want to receive care at home*.

The level of need is determined by a medical review called a Pre-Admission Evaluation, or PAE.

SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR PART A

The child must meet Institutional Level of Care based on the PAE

The child's doctor must certify that the child's needs can be safely met at home

The amount TennCare would pay for the child's care at home can't be more than it would cost to provide their care in an institution

The child must have and keep private insurance

- *A hardship waiver may be available for some families*

The family might have to pay a premium, depending on their income

ENROLLING IN PART A

- Even if you *qualify*, there must be an open program slot for your child to enroll.
- For the first year, only children who meet the highest needs for Institutional Level of Care (called “Tier 1”) will be enrolled in Part A.
- This will help make sure that children with the most complex needs are enrolled in Part A.

PART A

- Children in Part A receive full Medicaid benefits, such as:
 - Home health care services
 - In-home nursing services
 - Medical equipment and supplies
 - Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech Therapy
 - Audiological services
 - Non-emergency transportation (NEMT)
- The services must be medically necessary
- Private insurance must pay *first*. TennCare will help pay for those things private insurance doesn't cover, including co-pays

PART A

Children in Part A can also receive up to \$15,000 a year in home and community-based services to help pay for things insurance usually doesn't cover.

These are sometimes called “wraparound” services.

EXAMPLES OF “WRAP AROUND” SERVICES

- Respite or Supportive Home Care (from an agency or through Consumer Direction)
- Community Transportation
- Assistive Technology, Adaptive Equipment and Supplies
- Minor Home Modifications
- Vehicle Modifications
- Community Integration Support Services
- Family Caregiver Education and Training
- Decision Making Supports
- Family to Family Support
- Community Support Development, Organization and Navigation
- Health Insurance Counseling/Forms Assistance

PART A NURSE CARE MANAGEMENT

Children in Part A will have TennCare Select for their health plan (managed by BlueCare).

They will have a Nurse Care Manager through TennCare Select to help write a plan for the care each child needs.

The Nurse Care Manager will meet with the family at least quarterly to help the family with services (monthly for children who meet Tier 1 level of care). The Nurse Care Manager will also help as needed in between meetings.

PART B

PART B

Part B is for children with complex medical needs and disabilities who do not qualify for care in a medical institution or are waiting for a slot in Part A

SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR PART B

The child meets the “At Risk” level of care

OR

Meets institutional level of care and other qualifications for Part A, but is waiting for a program slot to become available in Part A

ENROLLING IN PART B

Children are enrolled in Part B on a first come, first served basis.

- This is based on when you apply or are placed on the Part B waiting list.

PART B

Children in Part B will not be enrolled in Medicaid, but **will get help from DIDD to pay for up to \$10,000 a year of care for their child.**

In formal Medicaid documents, this is referred to as “Medicaid Diversion.”

EXAMPLES OF HELP IN PART B:

Paying the cost of the child's private insurance

Paying for care the child's private insurance doesn't cover or only pays part of

- This can include a health care account with a card to pay for some of these costs as they happen
- It can also include getting paid back for things you can't purchase with the card

EXAMPLES OF HELP IN PART B:

Home and community-based services like those listed for Part A.

- For some of these services—like respite and supportive home care—you can hire the person who gives the care. OR, you can choose a community provider.

EXAMPLES OF “WRAP AROUND” SERVICES

- Respite or Supportive Home Care
(from an agency or through Consumer Direction)
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PART B SERVICES

- A DIDD case manager will help families who have children in Part B.
- They will help you write a plan for the care your child needs.
- They will help you manage your \$10,000 budget for Part B services.
- They can help you understand which services can be paid for with the health care account card and which services you will have to pay for first and then get paid back.
- They can also help you if your child's needs increase and you think you might qualify for Part A.

PART C

PART C

Based on feedback from parents, TennCare and DIDD added a **Part C**

Part C allows **children who are already on Medicaid keep their coverage**, even if their parents' income or assets increase

In formal Medicaid documents, this is called “Continued Eligibility” or “Continued Coverage”

SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR PART C

Part C is for children who are already on Medicaid, but are losing Medicaid because their parent's income or assets have increased

Examples:

- A family's income goes up and down seasonally
- One parent is offered a promotion

SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR PART C

The child meets *most* of the criteria for Part A, including:

- Institutional level of care
- The amount TennCare would pay for the child's care at home can't be more than it would cost to provide their care in an institution

But, the child does not have to:

- Purchase private insurance
- Pay premiums for Part C
(because they already have Medicaid)

SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR PART C

The child would be enrolled in Part A, but there is not an open slot for the child

The child will be on the waiting list for Part A while they are in enrolled in Part C

If a slot opens up for them in Part A, they will move to Part A (they can't stay in Part C)

PART C SERVICES

Children who qualify to stay on Medicaid in Part C will keep TennCare Medicaid benefits for children

They won't have “wrap around” services

HOW TO APPLY

APPLYING FOR KATIE BECKETT

- You can apply for Medicaid at any time
- **You can start applying for Katie Beckett at 7 a.m. Central Time on November 23, 2020**
- Applying for Katie Beckett starts by applying for Medicaid. TennCare must make sure the child doesn't qualify for Medicaid any other way. This is the **only** way to apply for Katie Beckett
- **Starting November 23, 2020**, when you apply for Medicaid, you can also choose to apply for Katie Beckett
- To apply for Medicaid AND Katie Beckett, you will need to create an account on TennCare Connect
 - Here is the link to TennCare Connect website:
<https://tenncareconnect.tn.gov/services/homepage>
- You can create an account on a computer or a smartphone
- You can only apply for Medicaid and Katie Beckett from your computer, not your smartphone
- If you don't have a computer, DIDD can help you apply

APPLYING FOR KATIE BECKETT

The application is written at a 6th grade reading level.

There is also “help” language in the application.

- Sometimes it’s on the screen.
- Sometimes you need to click the question mark to bring up the help language.

You’ll find a video to help you apply here:

<https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/members-applicants/tenncare-connect-instructional-videos-.html>

APPLYING FOR KATIE BECKETT

- To apply for Medicaid and Katie Beckett, you will need to answer questions about people in your home who are applying, people who live with you, the money you get, and the things you pay for and own.
- Tell us as much as you can. This will help speed up the process, so you get a decision faster.
- Give yourself time. It takes about 30 to 60 minutes to apply.
- If we don't get everything we need, TennCare may send a letter asking for papers to complete your financial review. Be sure to give us those **by the date in the letter**. You can upload them from your computer.

APPLYING FOR KATIE BECKETT

To apply for Medicaid and Katie Beckett, you will also need to tell us things like:

- Current address, phone number, and email address (if you have one)
- Social Security number and dates of birth for everyone applying
- Money from jobs and other sources
- Citizenship and immigration status
- The value of cars and other property
- Other health insurance information

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- Once you apply for Medicaid and Katie Beckett, a DIDD case manager will contact you to set a time for an assessment. They will tell you what papers you should have ready.
- DIDD will complete the assessment. They will collect financial and medical records and papers to see if your child qualifies for Katie Beckett.
- **It is VERY important** to have these documents ready.
- We can't see if your child qualifies without papers that prove your child's condition and needs.

APPLYING FOR MEDICAID AND KATIE BECKETT

SOME of the papers they will need are:

- Medical records that show your child's conditions and medical needs
- IQ evaluation with diagnosis of intellectual disability
- School records
- Therapy notes/assessments

This isn't a complete list, but some ideas of what will help us know whether your child meets level of care for Part A or Part B.

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- DIDD will first look to see if a child meets the medical rules for Part B.
- If a child might also meet the medical rules for Part A, a separate review will be done by a third party. This will include a review by a doctor.
- DIDD will tell you if they think your child may meet a Part A level of care.
- If you disagree with DIDD, you can request a Part A review.
- **We will hold a Part B slot for your child, if one is open, through the Part A assessment.**
- You will get a letter that tells you if you qualify and which Part. If you don't qualify, the letter will say why and tell you how to appeal if you think we made a mistake.

NEXT STEPS

TIMELINE

- DIDD and TennCare expect a very high volume of self-referrals in the first days of the program.
- We will work as quickly as we can to schedule and finish assessments.
- Please be patient!

CONNECT WITH US!

We will post program updates in several ways!

- DIDD Katie Beckett Page: <https://www.tn.gov/didd/katie-beckett-waiver.html>
- TennCare Katie Beckett Page: <https://www.tn.gov/tenncare/long-term-services-supports/katie-beckett-waiver.html>
- Subscribe to DIDD's weekly newsletter, *Open Line*, by contacting Carly.Carlton@tn.gov
- Follow DIDD and TennCare on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?