

Foster children in the custody of the Department of Child Safety (DCS) have physical healthcare coverage from the Comprehensive Medical and Dental Program (CMDP). In addition, the Regional Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA) provides behavioral health services (such as counseling). Physical and behavioral health covered services provided by CMDP and RBHA are also provided by the AHCCCS Complete Care (ACC) plans. Covered services are provided at no cost to foster children while in the custody of DCS.



### Health Care Coverage Options After Foster Care

CMDP and RBHA health care insurance does not continue once a child leaves DCS custody. Children who leave DCS custody do NOT automatically receive AHCCCS health care coverage.

- When a child returns to their natural parents\*
  - Natural parents can apply for AHCCCS Complete Care benefits.
  - Natural parents can add the child to private insurance.
- When a child is adopted:
  - Adoptive parents can apply for AHCCCS Complete Care coverage .
  - Adoptive parents can add the child to private insurance.
- When a child turns 18 years old and transitions out of foster care :
  - The child may be eligible for AHCCCS Complete Care coverage through the [Young Adult Transitional Insurance \(YATI\) program](#).

### When the child is returned to natural parents who already have AHCCCS coverage:

- The child will be enrolled with an AHCCCS Complete Care plan that provides both physical and behavioral health services.
- The ACC plan the child is enrolled with may have a different provider network than when they were in foster care. It is important to ask the current providers and specialists the child uses to determine if they are contracted with the new ACC plan.
- Once enrolled with an ACC plan, there may be a cost for services, prescriptions, office co-pays, etc. It is important to ask your providers about potential costs, and plan ahead.
- **The natural parents must contact AHCCCS to apply for coverage, or to have their child added to their AHCCCS coverage.**

\*“Natural Parent” refers to the individual(s) who had legal guardianship of the child prior to the child entering DCS custody.