

College and Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS)

If you have special health care needs and are planning on going away to college, you might have some extra planning to do. You'll need to know where to go to the doctor and how you are going to pay for your care. Below are a few things to remember:

Extra steps to take

- Find local providers and pharmacies in the area where you will be living.
- Find out how students on campus receive their health care. Ask if the college has a student health center.
- Prepare a medical summary. Include your most important medical history, any care plans, and current medications. This can be on paper or electronically.
- Contact the school's disability office for any needed accommodations.
- Schedule an initial consult with your new providers when you are well rather than waiting until you feel ill. Discuss plans for illness and emergency care.

Paying for health care

- Understand how your health insurance works.
 - Do you need to see a provider in network?
 - Are there any in-network providers where you will be living for college?
 - If not, will they make an exception for doctors in your area?
- For CSHCS to pay for services, you must see a CSHCS authorized (approved) provider. Make sure to call CSHCS when you find providers in the area where you are attending school and ask your local CSHCS office if you can add them as authorized providers.

Extra considerations for out of state colleges

- If you are attending college in a state other than Michigan, there will be some extra planning.
- If you have private insurance, make sure that you call the company and find out how they handle out of state coverage for college students. They may have their own rules.
- To maintain CSHCS eligibility you MUST see a CSHCS Michigan specialist at least once a year.
- CSHCS only covers out of state care in special circumstances. Be sure to call to ask if you can add out of state providers. If CSHCS approves it, the provider must enroll in and accept Michigan Medicaid to get paid.