

Children’s Health Insurance Program—CBO’s Baseline as of March 6, 2020

The Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) provides health insurance coverage for children in families whose income, although modest, is above the threshold to qualify for Medicaid. Each state can set its own eligibility threshold, but generally it falls between 138 percent and 300 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. Like Medicaid, CHIP is administered by the states within broad federal guidelines. Unlike Medicaid, however, CHIP has a fixed nationwide limit on federal spending.

These budget projections reflect legislation, administrative actions, and regulatory changes through March 6, 2020. They are based on the economic forecast that CBO completed on January 7, 2020, and do not account for changes to the nation’s economic outlook and fiscal situation arising from the recent and rapidly evolving public health emergency related to the novel coronavirus.

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March 19, 2020

By Fiscal Year

	Actuals 2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2020- 2030
Federal Funding (Billions of dollars)													
Budget Authority ^a	21	21	25	26	26	16	16	17	18	15	15	15	209
Outlays	18	16	14	14	15	16	16	17	18	18	19	20	183
Average Monthly Enrollment (Millions of people)													
Enrollment at Baseline Funding Amounts ^b													
Children	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Adults	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total Enrollment	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Average Annual Federal Spending on Benefit Payments per Enrollee (dollars) ^c	2,500	2,360	2,070	2,100	2,180	2,280	2,380	2,490	2,590	2,660	2,760	2,870	
Memorandum:													
Total Enrolled Within a Fiscal Year (Millions of people)	10	10	10	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Available Funding (Billions of dollars)													
State allotments	17	18	15	16	16	16	16	17	18	15	15	15	178
Prior-year funds still available	5	5	7	8	10	10	10	10	10	10	8	5	94
Budget authority rescissions	-2	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-3
Total Funding Available	20	20	22	24	25	26	27	27	28	26	23	20	268

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Components may not sum to totals because of rounding.

* = fewer than 50,000 enrollees.

a. Title XXI of the Social Security Act provides funding through September 2027. Consistent with statutory guidelines, CBO assumes in its baseline spending projections that annual funding for the program in later years will continue at \$15.3 billion.

b. These figures represent the number of beneficiaries enrolled on an average monthly basis in the 50 states and the District of Columbia, but they do not include enrollment in the U.S. territories.

c. Average federal spending on benefit payments per enrollee in 2019 reflects a 23 percentage-point increase in the enhanced federal medical assistance percentage. In 2020 that increase falls to 11.5 percentage points, and in 2021 there is no additional percentage-point increase, resulting in an average federal matching rate of 70 percent.