

# Montana Healthcare Programs MESSENGER

## Help Families Like Yours: Become a Family Peer Support Specialist!

Do you have experience raising a young person with mental health challenges or special health care needs? If so, you've probably picked up a lot of skills to support your child along the way.

You can use those tools and know-how to help others like you by becoming a Family Peer Support Specialist (FPSS), which is now a professional role in Montana.

FPSS work with the adults in these families by giving them support and resources to meet their goals. This valuable aid can improve lives and reduce stress for the entire family.

To become an FPSS in the state, hopefuls can take a 40-hour course like Family Peers for Hope's [Family Peer Support 101 \(FPS 101\)](#). The training meets state standards and includes a test. Other certification steps include an application, a fee, and a background check. Learn more about how to become an [FPSS here](#).

The next FPS 101 will be held online Feb. 24 – 26 followed by an in-person portion on March 3 – 5 in Helena. Training is \$950 per class member. Some scholarships are available. Learn more at [www.familypeersforhope.org/training](http://www.familypeersforhope.org/training) or by emailing [info@familypeersforhope.org](mailto:info@familypeersforhope.org)

Already an FPSS with training from outside of the state? Email [Patricia.Renenger@mt.gov](mailto:Patricia.Renenger@mt.gov) to learn if your training meets state standards.



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## 2026 Medicaid Member Guide

Medicaid Member Guides are updated yearly. The 2026 Guide can be found online at <https://dphhs.mt.gov/assets/hrd/MedicaidMemberGuide.pdf>.

The Guide has useful information for people with Medicaid. It answers common questions about your benefits and coverage. It also gives contact details so you can get help with other questions or concerns.

If you want a paper copy of the 2026 Guide mailed to you, call the Medicaid Help Line at 1-800-362-8312 or email [mtpassport@conduent.com](mailto:mtpassport@conduent.com).

# Supporting Your Child at Home: Montana's Pediatric Complex Care Assistant (PCCA) Services

If your child has serious medical needs, Montana's PCCA services might be able to help. It lets parents, relatives, or foster parents get trained and licensed to give specific medical care at home – and get paid for it.

## What is PCCA?

PCCA stands for Pediatric Complex Care Assistant. This service helps families care for their children at home with support from their doctors. You don't have to stop using other services like private duty nursing or personal care – this service works *with* them (but cannot replace them).

## Who Can Use It?

Your child might qualify for PCCA services if:

- They are under 21, are medically complex, and have Montana Medicaid.
- A doctor says they need special medical care.
- A family member is willing to get licensed and work with a Medicaid-approved agency.

## What Kind of Care Can You Give?

Once licensed and trained, you can help with things like:

- Tracheostomy Care (like suctioning and emergencies).
- Clearing and suctioning airways.
- Using oxygen or breathing machines (like ventilators, CPAP, and BiPAP).
- Giving medications.
- Other authorized services as outlined in the Montana Administrative Rule.

## How Do You Get Started?

- **Learn more at the PCCA website here:** [Pediatric Complex Care Assistant Services](#)
- **Apply for a PCCA license online and pay a \$25.00 fee.** You can do this online at [Pediatric Complex Care Assistant Program](#).
  - **You will need a form signed by your child's doctor.** The form can be found here: [PCCA License Attestation](#).
- **Find an Agency** that works with Montana Medicaid and is enrolled as a PCCA provider. They will help with training, scheduling, and paperwork.

## Well-Child Visits

Well-child visits are just as important for healthy children as they are when your child is sick.

These visits check a child's growth, development, and overall health. They follow a recommended schedule from birth through the teen years. You can get the schedule by calling your child's doctor or you can view it at [AAP Schedule of Well-Child Care Visits - HealthyChildren.org](#).

Well-child visits will discuss prevention. This will include scheduled immunizations to prevent illness. It will also include nutrition and safety in the home and school settings. This visit checks your child's growth and development. You can see how much they've grown since the last visit and talk with the doctor about milestones, behavior, and learning. Bring up any concerns and make a list of topics you want to discuss.



# Key Contacts

## **Montana Health Care Programs/Medicaid/HMK *Plus* Member Help Line**

For questions regarding benefits or Passport to Health:

**1-800-362-8312**

## **MT Health Care Programs**

## **Montana Relay Service**

For the deaf or hard of hearing:

**1-800-253-4091 or 711**

## **Montana Public Assistance Help Line**

For eligibility questions:

**1-888-706-1535**

## **MT PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**

## **Transportation Center**

For questions regarding travel or approval:

**1-800-292-7114.**

**Call before you travel, or you may not be reimbursed.**