

About DCH

The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) provides access to affordable health care to millions of Georgians, including some of the state's most vulnerable populations.

DCH is the lead agency for **Medical Assistance Plans (MAP)** which oversees the Georgia Medicaid programs. DCH also oversees the **State Health Benefit Plan (SHBP)** and the **Healthcare Facility Regulation Division (HFRD)**.

With a combined annual federal and state budget of more than \$16 billion, the department is one of the state's largest. It has over 1,000 employees and contractors who work at 2 Peachtree Street and across the state.

DCH is governed by a nine-member Board of Community Health. The Board establishes general policy for the department and meets on the second Thursday of each month.

The mission of the DCH is to provide Georgians with access to affordable, quality health care through effective planning, purchasing, and oversight.

We are dedicated to A Healthy Georgia.

DCH is also composed of the following Offices, Divisions, and attached agencies:

The **Division of Financial Management** provides financial leadership, guidance, and support.

The **Office of Analytics and Program Improvement** provides analytics and oversees program initiatives.

The **Office of Communications** creates and manages brand image and messaging.

The **Office of General Counsel** provides legal guidance.

The **Office of Government Relations** serves as a liaison between DCH and elected officials, other state agencies, and constituents.

The **Office of Human Resources** supports the workforce of DCH employees.

The **Office of Information Technology** provides technology, systems, and data management services.

The **Office of Inspector General** investigates fraud, waste, and abuse internally and externally.

The **Project Management Office** oversees project management and strategic planning functions.

The **Georgia Board of Dentistry** regulates the practice of dentistry.

The **Georgia Board of Health Care Workforce** meets the health care workforce needs of underserved areas.

The **Georgia Board of Pharmacy** regulates pharmacy personnel and pharmacy facilities.

The **Georgia Composite Medical Board** licenses physicians, medical professionals, specialists, and clinics.

The **Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency** enforces laws pertaining to pharmacy and controlled substances.

DCH Quick Guide

An Overview of the Georgia Department of Community Health

Shaping the future of A Healthy Georgia by improving access and ensuring quality to strengthen the communities we serve.

Did you know....?

- DCH programs provide access to health care for one in four Georgians.
- Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids® provide health care coverage to more than 2 million Georgians.
- The State Health Benefit Plan (SHBP) covers 600K+ state employees, school personnel, retirees, and their dependents.
- The Healthcare Facility Regulation Division (HFRD) supports and licenses over 20 types of facilities including hospitals, nursing homes, laboratories, and more.

Learn More: dch.georgia.gov



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH



Medical Assistance Plans

State Health Benefit Plan

Office of Health Planning

DCH is the state agency responsible for the administration of the Medical Assistance Plans Division (MAP), which oversees Georgia Medicaid, PeachCare for Kids® (Georgia's Children's Health Insurance Program population), and Planning For Healthy Babies®.

Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids members receive services through either managed care (Georgia Families® or Georgia Families 360°®) or fee-for-service arrangements.

Learn more at: medicaid.georgia.gov

The State Health Benefit Plan (SHBP) provides health insurance coverage for state employees, teachers, public school system employees, select retirees, and their covered dependents.

SHBP offers members the choices between:

- Three Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) plan options: Gold HRA, Silver HRA, and Bronze HRA;
- A Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) plan;
- A High-Deductible Health Plan option;
- Four fully-insured Medicare Advantage options (for retirees and dependents).

Learn more at: shbp.georgia.gov

The Office of Health Planning (OHP) administers the state Certificate of Need (CON) program and other Health Planning functions.

OHP also oversees the following functions:

- Administers the Certificate of Need Program, and conducts architectural plan reviews and site inspections for major renovations and construction projects in health care facilities.
- Administers the Patient's Right to Independent Review Program which provides patients the right to appeal an insurer's decision denying coverage for medical services.

Learn more at:

dch.georgia.gov/divisionsoffices/office-health-planning



MAP also provides the following services:

- Administers the Georgia Families 360° managed care program for children in foster care, children receiving adoption assistance, and select youth in the juvenile justice system;
- Oversees the five programs offering Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) alternatives to long-term institutional care;
- Generally supplies more than 3 million trips to Medicaid Members to receive health care services and treatment through the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) program.

The Healthcare Facility Regulation Division (HFRD) regulates and oversees all healthcare facilities in compliance with federal, state, and agency laws.

HFRD oversees the following functions:

- Investigates complaints and reported incidents at licensed facilities.
- Manages GaMap2Care®, a tool to assist Georgians in their selection of health care facilities. The site can be accessed at: forms.dch.georgia.gov/HFRD

Learn more at:

dch.georgia.gov/divisionsoffices/healthcare-facility-regulation

The State Office of Rural Health (SORH) works to improve access to health care in rural and underserved areas.

SORH oversees the following programs:

- The Georgia Farmworker Health Program (GFHP) which works to improve the lives, health, and health status of Georgia's migratory and seasonal agricultural workers;
- The Rural Hospital Stabilization Grant Program which evaluates hospital closures and overall global issues of access to health care in rural areas.

Learn more at:

dch.georgia.gov/divisionsoffices/state-office-rural-health

Medical Assistance Plans

Healthcare Facility Regulation Division

State Office of Rural Health