



September 18, 2017

Katie Beckett Parent Name
Address
City, GA Zip

Dear Katie Beckett Parent:

Following careful review of input provided by families, advocates, legislative representatives and other key stakeholders, the Department of Community Health (DCH) is announcing a change in the application and review processes related to the Katie Beckett program. Effective immediately all medical level of care determinations that are verified to meet the standard for Katie Beckett approval will be authorized for a period of no less than two (2) years. This change applies to all new and existing applicants.

It is important to note there are two components to the Katie Beckett review process; the eligibility review and the medical level of care review. The eligibility review consists of basic demographic, income, resource, and cost neutrality information. **Eligibility review information will continue to be gathered on an annual basis by your Right from the Start (RSM) Medical Assistance Katie Beckett team eligibility specialist as required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.**

However, the level of care, or medical criteria, will now be gathered at a frequency of no less than every two years. This change means families will now submit the DMA-6a and supporting medical documentation every two years as opposed to annually. Please note you will continue to receive an eligibility review notice annually from the RSM Katie Beckett team when it is time for your annual eligibility review. **You must comply with the eligibility review for your child to remain eligible for the Katie Beckett program, whether the level of care review is due or not.** The verification checklist will indicate when the level of care and eligibility reviews are due the same year.

The table provided below summarizes this information.



Katie Beckett Program Review Process	
Eligibility Review	Medical Level of Care Review
The review of Medicaid eligibility. Requires demographic, income, resource, and cost neutrality information.	The review of medical necessity. Required documentation includes: Pediatric DMA- 6(A) form, Medical Necessity/Level of Care Statement, Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), Individualized Education Plan (IEP), and Psychological Evaluation, if necessary.
Conducted by: Right From the Start Katie Beckett team	Conducted by: The Georgia Medical Care Foundation
Review period: Annual; No Change	Review period: Changing from Annual to once every two years

It is the hope of DCH that updating the level of care authorization period from one to two years will ease the administrative burden of the Katie Beckett renewal process for both the parents of children with disabilities and their Medicaid providers. This change should also promote continuity of care for your child.

Should you have questions related to this information please feel to email Brian Dowd at bdowd@dch.ga.gov or discuss with your Right from the Start Medical Assistance eligibility worker.

Sincerely,

Brian Dowd
Department of Community Health
Program Director, Waiver Programs