



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PeachCare for Kids Offers New Payment Options

ATLANTA –The PeachCare for Kids program, a state and federally funded program that provides health care for working families, offers a variety of new options for members to pay their monthly premiums. The new payment options, which were implemented October 1, provide members the opportunity to pay by telephone or by Internet access using a credit or debit card or electronic check. These options are in addition to the previously established methods of automatic withdrawal or premium payment booklets for mail service.

Members using the Internet may log on to a password protected “My Account” site to view their member account information, pay premiums, update their contact information, check the status of premium payments and verify months of coverage.

“These new options provide easier access to account information and payment of premiums, and I encourage our members to use the option that best suits their needs,” said Tim Burgess, Commissioner of the Department of Community Health. “Since October 1, we’ve seen increased use of the new payment options which is intended to make the application and payment process as streamlined and efficient as possible.”

Members may pay premiums over the telephone using a credit or debit card by calling 877-GA PEACH (427-3224). PeachCare for Kids parents will find online access to member accounts and premium payment options as well as an online application for the program at www.peachcare.org.

PeachCare for Kids was established in Georgia in 1998 and began covering Georgia's kids in 1999. Current eligibility is based on 235% of the federal poverty level allowing a family of four with an income of approximately \$44,000 to enroll children from birth to 18 years of age in the program. Benefits include primary, preventive, specialist, dental and vision care. Premiums range from \$10 to \$70 depending on the number of children enrolled and family income. As of September 2004, over 180,000 children in Georgia received health care services under the PeachCare program.

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