VI. If your child has birth defects and/or developmental disabilities that are unexplained, you and your child may benefit from a genetics evaluation. A genetics evaluation is done to find the cause of the problems the child has, to learn whether or not there is any treatment available, and to make parents (or the child when they become an adult) aware that they could have another child with the same problems. No one will be turned down due to inability to pay. To find out more or to schedule an appointment, call the genetics center nearest you.

Genetics Center

University of Tennessee, Memphis (901)-448-6595

Vanderbilt University Medical Ctr. Nashville (615) 322-7601

University of Tennessee, Knoxville (865) 305-9030 or (800) 325-3894

T.C. Thompson Children's Hospital, Chattanooga (423) 778-6112

East Tennessee State Univ., Johnson City (423) 439-8541

Hematology/Sickle Cell Centers

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Dept. of Hematology Comprehensive Sickle Cell Center, Memphis (901) 595-3760

Meharry Sickle Cell Center, Nashville (615) 327-6763

University of Tennessee, Knoxville (865) 305-9030 or (800) 325-3894

T.C Thompson Children's Hospital, Chattanooga (423) 778-7289





Tennessee Department of Health Family Health and Wellness Children and Youth with Special Health Care Need 710 James Robertson Parkway 8th Floor, Andrew Johnson Tower Nashville, TN 37243 (615) 741-7353

Services for Children with Disabilities



If you applied for SSI, your child may qualify for other services!



Your Child May Be Able to Get Services Other Than SSI

If you have applied for SSI disability for your child, your child may be able to get other services even if your SSI application was denied. These services are available to help your child learn and grow to their maximum potential.

If you call to apply for any of the services in this brochure, you may find it helpful to use this introduction. "My name is ______. I have a child with a disability, developmental delay, birth defects, etc. I learned about your services in a brochure I received when I applied for SSI. May I speak with someone about applying for these services?"

The following services have different eligibility requirements. However, you should not hesitate to call to see if your child could benefit.

If your child is a military dependent contact the Community Service Office of your military post first, before applying to other programs.

- Community Health Access and Navigation in Tennessee (CHANT) may help you gain access to needed behavioral, social, transportation, housing, and educational services. Contact your local health department for additional information. If you need assistance, a care coordinator will be assigned.
- II. If your child has a physical or chronic health condition, they may be eligible for the Children's Special Services (CSS) Program. To qualify, your child must have a diagnosis that is covered by CSS, and you must meet financial guidelines. To apply, contact your local health department or one of the regional/metropolitan offices listed.

Regional Health Offices

East Tennessee Region 865-549-9221

Mid-Cumberland Region 615-650-7000

Northeast Tennessee Region 423-979-3200

South Central Region 931-380-2532

Southeast Tennessee Region 423-634-5818

UpperCumberland Region 931-528-7531

West Tennessee Region 731-432-6600

Metropolitan Offices

Davidson County Health Department 615-340-5697

Hamilton County Health Department 423-209-8080

Jackson Madison County Health Department 731-423-3020

Knox County Health Department 865-215-5192

Shelby County Health Department 901-222-9134

Sullivan County Health Department 423-279-2777

III. The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program was established by the Tennessee General Assembly to address the needs of those individuals who have sustained a brain injury, as well as their family members and primary caregivers. For more information on the Traumatic Brain Injury Program, call 1-800-882-0611.

IV. If your child has been diagnosed with an intellectual or development disability, they may be eligible for services through the Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Call 615-532-6503 or 800-535-9725 for more information on these services.

If your child has been diagnosed with a mental health disability, they may be eligible for services through the Department of Mental Health. Call 615-532-6500 for more information on these services.



V. If your child is under three years of age and has a disability or other developmental delays, they may be eligible for services through the Tennessee Early Intervention System (TEIS). There are no financial eligibility guidelines; services are provided free to any eligible child and their family. Call 1-800-852-7157 to contact the TEIS office in your area of the state.

If your child is four years of age or older, they should receive services from your local school system.

Each local school system provides special education services to children and youth with disabilities who are ages 3 through 21. Contact the local school system to request an evaluation and/or services for your child.