

# Resources for Children With Cerebral Palsy and Their Families



Brought to you by:



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# Resources for Children With Cerebral Palsy and Their Families

Everyone needs a little help from time to time, and this is especially true for parents or caregivers of children with cerebral palsy.

At Cerebral Palsy Guide, we primarily help families navigate the legal process. Our team will determine if you may be eligible to receive financial compensation to help cover the extra costs that come with raising a child with cerebral palsy.

**Call today to find out how we can help (855) 257-2385.**

In addition to legal guidance, our team cares about supporting your family. There are many organizations available to help in a variety of ways. To connect you easily with these resources, we have compiled this guide to help you get started.

## Community Support Organizations

Parents often have a hard time coping with such a life-changing diagnosis like cerebral palsy.

Many families find that joining a support group can be incredibly beneficial. Organizations that offer emotional, medical, and financial support are great ways to help parents feel like they are not alone in this fight.

Support communities are a great place for new parents to get tips and advice from those who have already been through many of the early struggles of raising a child with cerebral palsy. By talking with people who have been in their shoes, parents and caregivers will come out feeling more prepared for their family's future.

**Cerebral palsy support groups help to:**

- Relieve stress and frustration
- Offer hope and an optimistic perspective
- Let families know that their struggles are not uncommon
- Find reassurance and understanding
- Provide a platform to share obstacles and achievements

## Support Groups and Organizations

There are a number of support options available across the country. National organizations ensure that children and parents in any city have access to the resources they need. Local support groups have been established so that families can access the emotional and medical resources they need close to home.

The organizations listed below offer affiliate programs in most major cities in the United States. Simply visit their websites to find a list of nearby affiliate groups that provide an array of services for both children and adults with cerebral palsy.

## CP Daily Living

[cpdailyliving.com](http://cpdailyliving.com)

Managed by a mother of a child with cerebral palsy and epilepsy, this site is designed to give families and caregivers dealing with cerebral palsy a central place for practical information and resources within the context of an emotionally supportive community.

## CP Kids Coalition

[reachingforthestars.org/cp-kids-coalition](http://reachingforthestars.org/cp-kids-coalition)

This organization was founded by Reaching for the Stars (see below). The coalition is a group of young people who produce articles and engage in discussions about the issues surrounding transitioning into adulthood with cerebral palsy. This is a great place for young adults with cerebral palsy to meet other people they can relate to.

## Cure CP

[curecp.org](http://curecp.org)

This organization was founded by two families that were directly affected by cerebral palsy. These parents created Cure CP to help fund and support research for cerebral palsy. Cure CP specifically supports research geared toward developing a cure and providing hope for the future.

## Cerebral Palsy Foundation

[yourcpf.org](http://yourcpf.org)

This organization contributes millions of dollars each year to cerebral palsy research. This research involves studies and clinical trials and focuses on finding new treatments that increase mobility and improve the overall quality of life for people with cerebral palsy. The Cerebral Palsy Foundation also campaigns to increase the level of federal support for people with cerebral palsy. They are leaders in advocating for better educational programs for doctors, nurses, and therapists.

## Cerebral Palsy Research Registry

[cpr.northwestern.edu](http://cpr.northwestern.edu)

Register your child into a secure database that is used to connect families with researchers studying cerebral palsy. A notification will be sent with studies that you qualify for, or you can opt to have researchers contact you directly. The choice to enroll in a particular study is entirely up to you and your family.

## Easter Seals

[easterseals.com](http://easterseals.com)

Easter Seals is a nonprofit organization that provides services for more than one million children and adults with autism and other disabilities, such as cerebral palsy. They provide support services for medical rehabilitation, residential services, job training, childcare, adult day programs, and camping/recreation.

## Family Voices

[familyvoices.org](http://familyvoices.org)

Family Voices promotes quality health care for children and youth with disabilities. They work closely with government leaders and medical professionals to ensure that individuals with disabilities have their voices heard.

## March of Dimes

[marchofdimes.org](http://marchofdimes.org)

Their expansive support community provides a place to share stories through various online discussion boards and forums. They also have a large social network of parents who have experience raising a child with special needs. March of Dimes also connects their members with other parents located in the same part of the country. This is a great way to create a local support system that all parents can benefit from.

## Parent to Parent USA

[p2pusa.org](http://p2pusa.org)

This non-profit organization provides emotional and informational support for families of children who have special needs. They match experienced, trained “Support Parents” with families in need. Their affiliate groups are typically started by parents of children with disabilities.

## Reaching for The Stars

[reachingforthestars.org](http://reachingforthestars.org)

This advocacy group primarily strives to increase federal funding for cerebral palsy research. They focus on improving treatment methods used in children with cerebral palsy, and they work endlessly towards finding a cure.

## The Arc

[thearc.org](http://thearc.org)

Founded in the 1950s by parents of children with an array of developmental disabilities, the Arc provides support for families and children with cerebral palsy across the nation. They offer more than 730 state and local chapters.

## United Cerebral Palsy (UCP)

[ucp.org](http://ucp.org)

The mission of UCP is to educate, advocate, and provide support resources for individuals with disabilities. They aim to provide tools to be independent and lead a happy, healthy life. UCP also pushes for the social, legal, and technological changes that would make it easier for individuals with disabilities to achieve their dreams.

### Local UCP affiliates include:

#### Alabama

UCP of East Central Alabama  
[ecaucp.org](http://ecaucp.org)  
415 Castle Avenue  
Anniston, AL 36205  
(256) 237-8203

UCP of Huntsville & Tennessee Valley  
[ucphuntsville.org](http://ucphuntsville.org)  
2075 Max Luther Dr. NW  
Huntsville, AL 35810  
(256) 852-5600

UCP of Mobile  
[ucpmobile.org](http://ucpmobile.org)  
3058 Dauphin Sq. Connector  
Mobile, AL 36607  
(251) 479-4900

UCP of Northwest Alabama  
[ucpshoals.org](http://ucpshoals.org)  
507 N Hook St.  
Tuscumbia, AL 35674  
(256) 381-4310

UCP of West Alabama  
[ucpwa.org](http://ucpwa.org)  
1100 UCP Pkwy.  
Northport, AL 35476  
(205) 345-3031

#### Arkansas

UCP of Arkansas  
[ucpark.org](http://ucpark.org)  
9720 N Rodney Parham Rd.  
Little Rock, AR 72227  
(501) 224-6067

#### Arizona

UCP of Central Arizona  
[ucpofcentralaz.org](http://ucpofcentralaz.org)  
1802 W Parkside Lane  
Phoenix, AZ 85027  
(602) 943-5472

UCP of Southern Arizona  
[ucpsa.org](http://ucpsa.org)  
635 N Craycroft  
Tucson, AZ 85711-1450  
(520) 795-3108

#### California

UCP of Central California  
[ccucp.org](http://ccucp.org)  
4224 N Cedar Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93726  
(559) 221-8272

UCP of the Golden Gate

[ucpgg.org](http://ucpgg.org)

1521 Webster St.  
Oakland, CA 94612  
(510) 832-7430

UCP of the Inland Empire

[ucpie.org](http://ucpie.org)

70-017 Highway 111 Suite 5  
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270  
(760) 321-8184

UCP of Los Angeles, Ventura &  
Santa Barbara Counties

[ucpla.org](http://ucpla.org)

6430 Independence Ave.  
Woodland Hills, CA 91367  
(818) 782-2211

UCP of the North Bay

[ucpn.org](http://ucpn.org)

3835 Cypress Dr.  
Petaluma, CA 94954  
(707) 766-9990

UCP of Orange County

[ucp-oc.org](http://ucp-oc.org)

980 Roosevelt Suite 100  
Irvine, CA 92620  
(949) 333-6400

UCP of Sacramento  
and Northern California

[ucpsacto.org](http://ucpsacto.org)

4350 Auburn Blvd.  
Sacramento, CA 95841  
(916) 565-7700

UCP of San Diego County

[ucpsd.org](http://ucpsd.org)

8525 Gibbs Dr. Suite 209  
San Diego, CA 92123  
(858) 571-7803

UCP of San Joaquin, Calaveras  
& Amador Counties

[ucpsj.org](http://ucpsj.org)

333 W Benjamin Holt Dr. Suite 1  
Stockton, CA 95207  
(209) 956-0290

UCP of San Luis Obispo

[ucp-slo.org](http://ucp-slo.org)

3620 Sacramento Dr. Suite 201  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
(805) 543-2039

UCP of Stanislaus and  
Tuolumne Counties

[ucpstan.org](http://ucpstan.org)

4265 Spyres Way Suite 2  
Modesto, CA 95356  
(209) 577-2122

UCP WORK, Inc.

[ucpworkinc.org](http://ucpworkinc.org)

5464 Carpinteria Ave. Suite B  
Carpinteria, CA 93013  
(805) 566-9000

### Connecticut

UCP of Eastern Connecticut

[ucpect.org](http://ucpect.org)

42 Norwich Rd.  
Quaker Hill, CT 06375  
(860) 443-3800

UCP of Greater Hartford

[ucphartford.org](http://ucphartford.org)

80 Whitney St.  
Hartford, CT 06105  
(860) 236-6201

### District of Columbia

UCP National Office

[ucp.org](http://ucp.org)

1825 K. St. NW Ste. 600  
Washington, DC 20006-1202  
(202) 973-7000

UCP of Washington DC &  
Northern Virginia

[ucpdc.org](http://ucpdc.org)

1110 U Street SE  
Washington, DC 20020  
(202) 269-1500

### Delaware

UCP of Delaware

[ucpde.org](http://ucpde.org)

700A River Rd.  
Wilmington, DE 19809  
(302) 764-2400

### Florida

UCP of Central Florida

[ucpcf.org](http://ucpcf.org)

4780 Data Court  
Orlando, FL 32817  
(407) 852-3300

United Community Options  
of South Florida

[unitedcommunityoptionssfl.org](http://unitedcommunityoptionssfl.org)

2700 W 81 St.  
Hialeah, FL 33016  
(305) 325-1080 x1277

UCP of Southwest Florida

[ucpswfl.org](http://ucpswfl.org)

2203 30th Ave. W  
Bradenton, FL 34205  
(941) 251-4956

### Georgia

UCP of Georgia

[ucpga.org](http://ucpga.org)

3300 NE Expressway Building 9  
Atlanta, GA 30341  
(770) 676-2000

### Hawaii

UCP of Hawaii

[ucpahi.org](http://ucpahi.org)

414 Kuwili St. Suite 104  
Honolulu, HI 96817  
(808) 532-6744

### Illinois

UCP Land of Lincoln

[ucpll.org](http://ucpll.org)

101 N 16th St.  
Springfield, IL 62703  
(217) 525-6522

UCP Seguin of Greater Chicago

[ucpseguin.org](http://ucpseguin.org)

3100 South Central Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60804  
(312) 765-0419

### Indiana

UCP of Greater Indiana

[ucpaindy.org](http://ucpaindy.org)

6270 Corporate Dr.  
Indianapolis, IN 46278  
(317) 871-4032

**Kansas**

UCP of Kansas  
[ucpks.org](http://ucpks.org)  
5111 E 21 St. N  
Wichita, KS 67208  
(316) 688-1888

**Louisiana**

UCP of Baton Rouge  
[mcmainscdc.org](http://mcmainscdc.org)  
1805 College Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808  
(225) 923-3420

UCP of Greater New Orleans  
[ucpgno.org](http://ucpgno.org)  
2200 Veterans Memorial Blvd.  
Suite 103  
Kenner, LA 70062  
(504) 461-4266

**Maine**

UCP of Maine  
[ucpofmaine.org](http://ucpofmaine.org)  
700 Mt. Hope Ave. Suite 320  
Bangor, ME 04401  
(207) 941-2952

**Massachusetts**

UCP of MetroBoston  
[ucpboston.org](http://ucpboston.org)  
71 Arsenal St.  
Watertown, MA 02472  
(617) 926-5480

UCP of Western Massachusetts  
[ucpberkshire.org](http://ucpberkshire.org)  
208 W St.  
Pittsfield, MA 01201  
(413) 442-1562

**Michigan**

UCP of Metropolitan Detroit  
[ucpdetroit.org](http://ucpdetroit.org)  
23077 Greenfield Rd. Suite 205  
Southfield, MI 48075  
(248) 557-5070

UCP of Michigan  
[ucpmichigan.org](http://ucpmichigan.org)  
1325 S. Washington Ave.  
Lansing, MI 48910  
(517) 203-1200

**Minnesota**

UCP of Central Minnesota  
[ucpcentralmn.org](http://ucpcentralmn.org)  
24707 County Rd. 75  
Saint Augusta, MN 56301  
(320) 253-0765

UCP of Minnesota  
[ucpmn.org](http://ucpmn.org)  
200 University Ave. E  
St Paul, MN 55101  
(651) 265-7361

**Missouri**

UCP Heartland  
[ucpheartland.org](http://ucpheartland.org)  
13975 Manchester Rd.  
Manchester, MO 63011  
(636) 227-6030

UCP of Northwest Missouri  
[ucpnwmo.org](http://ucpnwmo.org)  
3303 Frederick Ave.  
St. Joseph, MO 64506  
(816) 364-3836

**Nebraska**

UCP of Nebraska  
[ucpnebraska.org](http://ucpnebraska.org)  
920 S 107th Ave Suite 302  
Omaha, NE 68114  
(402) 502-3572

**Nevada**

UCP of Nevada  
[ucpnv.org](http://ucpnv.org)  
740 Freeport Blvd. Ste. 101  
Sparks, NV 89431  
(775) 322-6555

**New Jersey**

UCP of Hudson County  
[ucpofhudsoncounty.org](http://ucpofhudsoncounty.org)  
721 Broadway  
Bayonne, NJ 07002  
(201) 436-2200

**New York**

ADAPT Community Network  
[adaptcommunitynetwork.org](http://adaptcommunitynetwork.org)  
80 Maiden Lane, 8th Floor  
New York, NY 10038  
(212) 683-6700

UCPA of Long Island  
[ucp-li.org](http://ucp-li.org)  
250 Marcus Blvd.  
Hauppauge, NY 11718  
(631) 232-0011

**North Carolina**

Easter Seals UCP North  
Carolina & Virginia  
[nc.eastersealsucp.com](http://nc.eastersealsucp.com)  
5171 Glenwood Ave. Suite 211  
Raleigh, NC 27612  
(919) 783-8898

**Ohio**

Stepping Stones/UCP of Greater  
Cincinnati  
[steppingstonesohio.org](http://steppingstonesohio.org)  
2300 Drex Ave  
Norwood, OH 45212  
(513) 831-4660

UCP of Greater Cleveland  
[ucpcleveland.org](http://ucpcleveland.org)  
10011 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44106  
(216) 791-8363

**Oklahoma**

Ability Connection Oklahoma  
[acok.org](http://acok.org)  
10400 Greenbriar Place Suite 101  
Oklahoma City, OK 73159  
(405) 759-3562

**Oregon**

UCP Oregon  
[ucpaorwa.org](http://ucpaorwa.org)  
305 NE 102nd Ave. Suite 100  
Portland, OR 97220  
(503) 777-4166

**Pennsylvania**

Alleghenies United Cerebral Palsy  
[alucp.org](http://alucp.org)  
119 Jari Drive  
Johnstown, PA 15904  
(814) 619-3398

UCP of Central Pennsylvania  
[ucpcentralpa.org](http://ucpcentralpa.org)  
55 Utley Drive  
Camp Hill, PA 17011  
(717) 737-3477

UCP of Northeastern Pennsylvania  
[ucpnepa.org](http://ucpnepa.org)  
425 Wyoming Avenue  
Scranton, PA 18503  
(570) 347-3357

UCP of South Central Pennsylvania  
[ucpsouthcentral.org](http://ucpsouthcentral.org)  
788 Cherry Tree Ct.  
Hanover, PA 17731  
(717) 632-5552

**Rhode Island**  
UCP of Rhode Island  
[ucpri.org](http://ucpri.org)  
200 Main St. Suite 210  
Pawtucket, RI 02860  
(401) 728-1800

**South Carolina**  
UCP of South Carolina  
[ucpsc.org](http://ucpsc.org)  
1101 Harbor Dr.  
West Columbia, SC 29169  
(803) 926-8878

**Tennessee**  
UCP of Middle Tennessee  
[ucpmidtn.org](http://ucpmidtn.org)  
1200 9th Ave. N Suite 110  
Nashville, TN 37208  
(615) 242-4091

**Wisconsin**  
UCP of Greater Dane County  
[ucpdane.org](http://ucpdane.org)  
2801 Coho St. Suite 100  
Madison, WI 53713  
(608) 273-4434

UCP of West Central Wisconsin  
[ucpwcw.org](http://ucpwcw.org)  
2153 EastRidge Center  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
(715) 832-1782

## Online Support Groups

### Special Needs Moms for Moms

[specialneedsmomsformoms.com](http://specialneedsmomsformoms.com)

This online community provides a vast social network for parents and families of children with special needs. Members are able to share information through an online forum. Parents in this group can offer support, organize local meetups, and provide inspiration for other families.

### Mommies of Miracles

[mommiesofmiracles.com](http://mommiesofmiracles.com)

This is the world's largest online support organization for mothers of children with disabilities. Mommies of Miracles provides a network of resources, products, and services that help inspire and educate mothers. They match families to create a local support system.

## Special Education

By law, schools must provide special help to eligible children with disabilities. If your child is eligible to receive special education services, a team of school professionals will meet with you to write an individualized education program (IEP) for your child.

### Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Services

[sites.ed.gov/idea](http://sites.ed.gov/idea)

Early intervention and school-aged services are available through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Part C of IDEA covers early intervention services (birth through 36 months). Part B applies to services for school-aged children (3 through 21 years old).



## Part C of IDEA: Early Intervention for Babies and Toddlers

Early intervention services can help children from birth through 36 months of age learn new skills, whether they have been identified recently with motor and movement delays or already have a cerebral palsy diagnosis. Early intervention services can start even before a diagnosis is made.

The first step is to have an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) developed by a team. This includes both parent and provider input. The IFSP describes the child's current level of development, family needs, specific services to be provided to the child and the family, and a plan to transition to public school.

### Early intervention services may include:

- Family training
- Counseling
- Home visits
- Occupational, physical, or speech therapy
- Hearing loss services
- Health and nutrition
- Social work
- Assistance with service coordination
- Assistive technology devices and services
- Transportation

## Part B of IDEA: Services for School-Aged Children

Free services for school-aged children with developmental disabilities are provided through the public school system.

Before Part B services start, an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) is developed for children 3 through 21 years of age who qualify for special education services from school districts. An IEP is similar to an IFSP, but it is more focused on the child's goals rather than the family's goals.

### Services covered under IDEA are:

- Special education
- Physical, occupational, and speech therapy
- Supplementary aids and services
- Adaptive equipment
- Special communication systems

## Center for Parent Information & Resources

[parentcenterhub.org](http://parentcenterhub.org)

This organization supports national Parents Centers who serve families of children with disabilities. You can locate a center near you on their site. The site also explains the IEP process in detail and offers information and materials for families about special education services.



## Adaptive Clothing

There are lines of adaptive clothing specially-designed to fit wheelchairs, G/J tubes, diapers, and more. This can make a caregiver's life much easier and allow your child to be more comfortable. Some companies carry bodysuits in larger kid sizes, to keep hands away from medical equipment.

### Koolway Sports

[koolwaysports.com](http://koolwaysports.com)

Koolway Sports makes custom-made outerwear to fit a child's body frame and wheelchair configurations. Options include half-backs, full zippered sleeves, zippered hoods, hidden G/J tubes, and shoulder harness openings.

### Ross Daniel Adaptive Apparel

[rdadaptiveapparel.com](http://rdadaptiveapparel.com)

This company carries fashionable and comfortable adaptive socks and shirts to accommodate children who wear leg braces or ankle-foot orthotics.

### Cat & Jack

[target.com/c/kids-adaptive-clothing/-/N-1laue](http://target.com/c/kids-adaptive-clothing/-/N-1laue)

Available through Target, this adaptive clothing comes with design features such as no-tag sensory-friendly, hidden opening for abdominal access, high-rise bottoms for diaper coverage, and more.

### Shoes for AFOS

[shoesforafos.com](http://shoesforafos.com)

Shoes for AFOS offers custom made shoes and boots to accommodate orthotics such as AFO, KAFO, DAFO, and SMO braces.

## Playgroups

Playgroups for children with physical and cognitive disabilities are a great option for children with cerebral palsy. Playgroups meet during various times throughout the year and are available in most major U.S. cities. Under specialized care, children with cerebral palsy can grow emotionally, mentally, and physically from friendships and independence.

## Summer Camps

Summer camps help to ensure that children with cerebral palsy are learning valuable social skills and independence.

Camps for children with cerebral palsy are equipped with accessible facilities and experienced staff. Children in camps participate in a number of activities, including swimming, hiking, fishing, crafts, sports, and campfires. By taking the focus off of their disability, children with cerebral palsy can form meaningful friendships and memories.

Some summer camps offer inclusive programs and activities to bring all kids together. This way, everyone can enjoy activities equally, and nobody is left out of all the fun. Other camps are dedicated exclusively for individuals with one or more of a wide range of special needs.

## Very Special Camps

[veryspecialcamps.com/summer/cerebral-palsy-camps](https://veryspecialcamps.com/summer/cerebral-palsy-camps)

Locate a summer camp or program based upon your child's requirements and criteria in this directory of camps.

## Medical Treatment

Treatment for cerebral palsy is multifaceted, often requiring multiple doctors and therapies. Early treatment usually has the greatest chance of improving a child's condition. The purpose of treatment for cerebral palsy is to promote the most normal, manageable, and healthy life possible.

### American Academy for Cerebral Palsy and Developmental Medicine (AACPDM)

[aacpdm.org/providers](https://aacpdm.org/providers)

The Academy is comprised of over 1,100 health professionals dedicated to education, research, and services for the benefit of people with cerebral palsy. Locate an AACPDM member by location, specialty, and/or patient type.

## Financial Resources

The cost of caring for a child with cerebral palsy over a lifetime is around \$1 Million, in addition to normal living expenses. This can be an overwhelming figure for families.

By finding a financial support organization that works with their child's individual needs, parents can feel more secure about their family's future.

There are also government benefits available that can offset the costs of cerebral palsy treatment. By finding ways to manage the expenses associated with cerebral palsy, parents can ensure their child receives the therapy, medications, surgeries, and treatment they need to live a full life.

### Children's Hemiplegia and Stroke Association (CHASA)

[chasa.org](https://chasa.org)

CHASA provides financial assistance and scholarships to families in need. It is dedicated to helping parents of children with cerebral palsy by creating a network to share information about treatment clinics and educational programs.

### UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation (UHCCF)

[uhccf.org](https://uhccf.org)

UHCCF provides families affected by cerebral palsy with the opportunity to receive access to health-related services that are not covered by their family's commercial health insurance plan. This group provides grants of up to \$5,000 annually per child, even to families without a UnitedHealthcare insurance plan.

### MORGAN Project

[themorganproject.org](https://themorganproject.org)

The MORGAN Project is a non-profit organization established by Robert and Kristen Malfara in honor of their son Morgan, who suffers from a rare form of leukodystrophy. Their mission is to raise awareness, offer support for parents of children with special health care needs, and provide guidance, resources, and gently-used disability equipment.

## Government Benefits

There are five federally funded programs that offer additional income and insurance for those with cerebral palsy.

### **These programs include:**

1. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
2. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
3. Medicaid
4. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
5. Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

While this funding originates within the national government, benefits are accessible through your state or city government. This makes it easier for parents to apply for and receive the help they need without having to endure a lengthy process of evaluation.

Local government agencies are responsible for dispersing the funds allotted to their citizens with disabilities. To apply for these government benefits or insurance plans, parents should seek out any necessary applications and forms through their local council.

### **Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Benefits**

[ssa.gov/benefits/ssi](https://ssa.gov/benefits/ssi)

SSI is a monthly income for children and adults with serious disabilities, such as cerebral palsy. SSI is reserved for low-income families.

### **Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) Benefits**

[ssa.gov/disability](https://ssa.gov/disability)

SSDI provides monthly income for adults that are unable to work due to their disability. SSDI does not require the applicant to have a certain income amount to receive benefits.

### **Medicaid Benefits**

[medicaid.gov](https://medicaid.gov)

Medicaid is a federal health insurance program set up for families with limited income. Many families affected by cerebral palsy use Medicaid to help pay for medical expenses, housing, and assistive devices.

### **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Benefits**

[sites.ed.gov/idea](https://sites.ed.gov/idea)

IDEA is a federal law that requires schools to serve the educational needs of students with special needs. Children with cerebral palsy are generally eligible for special education and treatment services provided by IDEA.

This program offers services for individuals up to 21 years old. Also, children who are showing signs of cerebral palsy but haven't been officially diagnosed may still qualify for special education services. IDEA is meant to foster an environment that is more conducive to learning by providing access to an array of accommodation services.

## Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Benefits

[healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/childrens-health-insurance-program](https://healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/childrens-health-insurance-program)

CHIP provides low-cost health care coverage to families that exceed the income requirement for Medicaid through both Medicaid and separate CHIP programs. CHIP coverage is offered in every U.S. state, and the costs associated with CHIP coverage differ for each family. However, this health insurance option ensures that you won't have to pay more than 5% of your family's income for the year.

## Legal Resources

Cerebral palsy can impact a child throughout their entire life. Oftentimes, children require therapies, surgeries, assistive devices, home modification, and more. Adults with cerebral palsy are likely to face many obstacles as they continue to manage their symptoms in adulthood.

If you have any reason to believe that your child's condition is the result of medical malpractice, begin the lawsuit process as soon as possible, as legal deadlines vary by state.

Your family may be entitled to receive valuable financial compensation that can be put towards alleviating the overwhelming cost of cerebral palsy treatment.

Contact the team at Cerebral Palsy Guide at (855) 257-2385 for a [free legal case review](#). They will be able to help determine if you are eligible for financial compensation and guide you through the legal process.

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