



NEWS RELEASE

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Enroll now in **ALLKids**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Alabama Department of Public Health announces that applications for enrollment in the Children's Health Insurance Program, *ALL Kids*, are now being accepted and processed. It is expected that, at least for the remainder of the summer, new applications can be processed and approved with a quick turnaround time.

ALL Kids is a low-cost children's health insurance program that provides coverage for quality medical care including preventive, dental and vision care. Eligible children must be under the age of 19 and live in families whose incomes are above Medicaid eligibility levels and below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

"We are happy we can resume offering affordable health care coverage to as many eligible children as possible without the delay of placing them on a waiting list," says Dr. Donald Williamson, state health officer. "If there are families with children who have not applied because of the waiting list situation, we would encourage them to return their applications now."

ALL Kids has been critical in the success of reducing the number of uninsured children in Alabama to one of the lowest levels in the state's history. Since *ALL Kids* began in October 1998, more than 110,000 children in Alabama have received health care coverage through this program.

The *ALL Kids* application for enrollment is a joint application with three other programs: SOBRA Medicaid, Medicaid for Low Income Families, and the Alabama Child Caring Foundation. Applications for children who are not eligible for *ALL Kids* but who appear to be eligible for one of the other programs are forwarded to that program.

ALL Kids is in its fifth year with more than 56,000 children currently enrolled in the program. *ALL Kids* is funded with 79 percent federal funds drawn down by a 21 percent state match, most of which comes from the state's General Fund.

For more information, please call the *ALL Kids* administrative offices at 1-334-206-5568 or toll free at 1-877-774-9521.

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