

**GEORGIA TITLE XXI PROGRAM &  
TITLE XXI AMENDMENT FACT SHEET**

<b>Name of Plan:</b>	<b>PeachCare for Kids</b>
<b>Date Plan Submitted:</b>	May 29, 1998
<b>Date Plan Approved:</b>	September 3, 1998
<b>Plan Effective Date:</b>	September 1, 1998
<b>Date Amendment #1 Submitted:</b>	January 6, 2000
<b>Date Amendment #1 Approved:</b>	April 20, 2000
<b>Date Amendment #1 Effective:</b>	October 1, 1999
<b>Date Amendment #2 Submitted:</b>	January 31, 2001
<b>Date Amendment #2 Approved:</b>	June 1, 2001
<b>Date Amendment #2 Effective:</b>	July 1, 2001
<b>Date Amendment #3 Submitted:</b>	February 6, 2001
<b>Date Amendment #3 Approved:</b>	June 1, 2001
<b>Date Amendment #3 Effective:</b>	July 1, 2000
<b>Date Amendment #4 Submitted:</b>	June 15, 2001
<b>Date Amendment #4 Approved:</b>	August 31, 2001
<b>Date Amendment #4 Effective:</b>	April 1, 2001
<b>Date Amendment #5 Submitted:</b>	September 28, 2001
<b>Date Amendment #5 Approved:</b>	February 11, 2002
<b>Date Amendment #5 Effective:</b>	October 1, 2001
<b>Date Amendment #6 Submitted:</b>	July 30, 2002
<b>Date Amendment #6 Approved:</b>	January 17, 2003
<b>Date Amendment #7 Submitted:</b>	July 3, 2003
<b>Date Amendment #7 Approved:</b>	September 25, 2003
<b>Date Amendment #7 Effective:</b>	July 1, 2003
<b>Date Amendment #8 Submitted:</b>	July 15, 2003
<b>Date Amendment Withdrawn:</b>	July 31, 2003
<b>Date Amendment #9 Submitted:</b>	February 13, 2004
<b>Date Amendment #9 Approved:</b>	April 30, 2004
<b>Date Amendment #9 Effective:</b>	January 1, 2004

<b>Date Amendment #10 Submitted:</b>	June 21, 2004
<b>Date Amendment #10 Approved:</b>	September 17, 2004
<b>Date Amendment #10 Effective:</b>	July 1, 2004
<b>Date Amendment #11 Submitted:</b>	July 7, 2005
<b>Date Amendment #11 Approved:</b>	September 30, 2005
<b>Date Amendment #11 Effective:</b>	July 1, 2005; August 1, 2005; January 1, 2006
<b>Date Amendment #12 Submitted:</b>	August 29, 2006
<b>Date Amendment #12 Approved:</b>	November 2, 2006
<b>Date Amendment #12 Effective:</b>	June 1, 2006 in Atlanta and the Central Region; and September 1, 2006, Statewide
<b>Date Amendment #13 Submitted:</b>	March 20, 2007
<b>Date Amendment #13 Approved:</b>	June 15, 2007
<b>Date Amendment #13 Effective:</b>	March 11, 2007 for enrollment cap; March 20, 2007 for new source of State funds
<b>Date Amendment #14 Submitted:</b>	July 5, 2007
<b>Date Amendment #14 Approved:</b>	October 25, 2007
<b>Date Amendment #14 Effective:</b>	July 1, 2007, for revised verification requirements; July 12, 2007, for resumption of new enrollment
<b>Date Amendment #15 Submitted:</b>	August 2, 2010
<b>Date Amendment #15 Approved:</b>	February 10, 2011
<b>Date Amendment #15 Effective:</b>	January 1, 2010 for coming into compliance with provisions in CHIPRA section 211 regarding verification of citizenship July 31, 2010 for coming into compliance with CHIPRA section 504 (premium grace period) June 1, 2010 for Further aligning the State's list of permissible income documentation with the State's list of permissible Medicaid income documentation

## **Background**

- On September 3, 1998, Georgia received approval for their initial title XXI State plan, to expand coverage to low-income children, from birth through 18 years of age, in families with incomes up to 200 percent of the Federal poverty level (FPL), who are not eligible for Medicaid, through a separate State child health insurance program.

## **Amendments**

- The State submitted its first State plan amendment on January 6, 2000, which modified the reinstatement process to facilitate resuming coverage to children who lost coverage due to

non-payment of premiums. Additionally, this amendment exempts American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) children from cost sharing and premium payment requirements.

- The State submitted its second State plan amendment on January 31, 2001, to clarify language regarding the redetermination process for SCHIP. The State now sends families letters detailing their eligibility information and asks the family to provide changes by mail or phone. This amendment removed the role of the State Department of Labor from the eligibility determination process. The State information is now verified through monthly matches through the State Merit System.
- The State submitted its third State plan amendment on February 6, 2001, to increase income eligibility to children with income at or below 235 percent of the FPL.
- The State submitted its fourth State plan amendment on June 15, 2001, to make the first day of the month in which a complete application is received by the State the effective date of enrollment in SCHIP. This applies only when the child is subsequently determined eligible for the separate child health program.
- The State submitted its fifth State plan amendment on September 28, 2001, to allow an additional exemption from the 3-month waiting period without group health plan coverage for families who have dropped high-cost private insurance (defined as cost sharing expected to exceed five percent of the family's income).
- The State submitted its sixth amendment on July 30, 2002. This amendment updates and amends the SCHIP State plan to indicate the State's compliance with the final SCHIP regulations.
- The State submitted its seventh amendment on July 3, 2003, to increase premiums for children age six and over from \$7.50 to \$10 per month for families with one child and income from 101 to 235 percent of the FPL and from \$15 to \$20 per month for families with two or more children and income from 151 to 235 percent of the FPL.
- Georgia submitted its eighth amendment on July 15, 2003. The State withdrew the amendment on July 31, 2003.
- Georgia submitted its ninth amendment on February 13, 2004, to change the procedure the State uses to notify enrollees that monthly premium payments are late and payment is required for continued enrollment in PeachCare. Previously, Georgia sent two letters requesting payment to families that had not submitted premiums. Effective January 1, 2004, the State will send one letter.
- Georgia submitted its tenth amendment on June 21, 2004, to revise the SCHIP plan to change enrollment policy so that enrollees are ineligible for reinstatement for 3 months following a

cancellation due to nonpayment of premium, to increase the waiting period of uninsurance from 3 months to 6 months, and to increase monthly premiums for families with children over age 5 with incomes above 150 percent of the FPL on a sliding scale based on family income. This SPA is effective July 1, 2004.

- Georgia submitted its eleventh amendment on July 7, 2005, to change its premium policy by extending the due date for payment of monthly premiums and reducing the penalty period for late/nonpayment of premiums, change the delivery system from primary care case management to care management organizations, and change dental benefits by removing restorative and orthodontic procedures from covered dental services.
- Georgia submitted its twelfth amendment on August 29, 2006, to add restorative and orthodontic dental benefits for enrolled children, to reestablish the full dental benefit that was in place prior to the FY 2006 benefit reduction authorized in SPA #11. The change is effective June 1, 2006, in Atlanta and the Central Region; and September 1, 2006, statewide.
- Georgia submitted its thirteenth amendment on March 20, 2007. The amendment enacts an enrollment cap effective March 11, 2007, which closes enrollment to new applicants on or after that date. The amendment also adds a new source of State funds, Care Management Organizations' (CMO) Quality Assessment Fees, effective March 20, 2007.
- Georgia submitted its fourteenth amendment on July 5, 2007. The amendment changes verification procedures to require all applicants to verify income, citizenship and identity, effective July 1, 2007. The amendment also lifts the freeze on new enrollment that was imposed in March, 2007, and allows the State to resume enrollment effective July 12, 2007, until enrollment reaches 295,000.
- The State submitted its fifteenth amendment on August 2, 2010. The amendment allows the State to be in compliance with section 504 (premium grace period) and provisions in section 211 (verification of declaration of citizenship) of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA). In addition, this SPA will allow Georgia to accept additional income documentation for its Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to further align with the State's list of permissible Medicaid income documentation.

### **Children Covered Under Program**

- The State reported that 248,268 children were ever enrolled in PeachCare for Kids during Federal fiscal year 2010.

### **Administration**

- The Georgia Department of Community Health administers PeachCare for Kids.

### **Health Care Delivery System**

- The Georgia SCHIP Legislation mandates that “any health care provider who is enrolled in the Medicaid program shall be deemed to be enrolled in the SCHIP program.” Therefore, the current Medicaid child health assistance delivery and utilization control system is the system used for PeachCare for Kids. Through December 31, 2005, the system includes a statewide primary care case management system, Georgia Better Health Care (GHBC) and a regional managed care structure, Georgia Healthy Families (GHF).
- Effective January 1, 2006, PeachCare for Kids members will be enrolled in a commercially licensed care management organization (CMO) that is contracted by the Department of Community Health. Membership in Georgia Healthy Families (GHF) is mandatory for all PeachCare for Kids members. Through GHF, each CMO contracts with primary care physicians, specialists and other providers to deliver and coordinate health care services for PeachCare for Kids members. The CMO receives a per-member-per-month capitation rate for providing and coordinating members’ health care services. This change conforms to a planned change in the Medicaid delivery and utilization control system for most Medicaid-eligible pregnant women and children.

**Benefit Package**

- PeachCare for Kids offers benchmark coverage plus additional coverage. The benchmark is BlueChoice Health Care Plan, the HMO with the largest enrollment in the State. Georgia has added services to cause the coverage to be substantially the same as coverage available to children under Georgia’s Medicaid plan.

**Cost Sharing**

- There is no cost sharing for children under 6 years of age, and enrollees do not pay copayments. Families with income from 101 to 235 percent of the FPL pay monthly premiums based on a sliding scale:

FPL	One Child	Family Cap
100-150%	\$10.00	\$15.00
151-160%	\$20.00	\$40.00
161-170%	\$22.00	\$44.00
171-180%	\$24.00	\$48.00
181-190%	\$26.00	\$52.00
191-200%	\$28.00	\$56.00
201-210%	\$29.00	\$58.00
211-220%	\$31.00	\$62.00
221-230%	\$33.00	\$66.00
231-235%	\$35.00	\$70.00

**Crowd-Out Strategy**

- A child is denied eligibility if it is determined that he or she: 1) is covered under a group health plan or health insurance coverage, or 2) is eligible for Medicaid, or 3) is a member of a family that is eligible for health benefits coverage under the State health benefit plan, or 4) voluntarily dropped coverage under an employer plan during the last 6 months, unless coverage was dropped involuntarily.
- The SCHIP application contains questions about current and past coverage under group health plans and family members' employment with State Agencies. State employment information will be verified through monthly matches with the State Merit System and the Board of Regents.

### **Coordination between SCHIP and Medicaid**

- A common simplified application and redetermination procedures apply to both programs. An automated system determines eligibility for both programs, which allows for transfer between Medicaid and SCHIP to be automatic when the child's status changes.

### **Outreach Activities**

- The State uses the nationally recognized Right From the Start (RSM) outreach strategies for PeachCare for Kids. RSM outreach workers have a variety of program information on both creditable and non-creditable coverage and other ways to access health care services, as well as all pertinent information on both Medicaid and PeachCare.

### **Financial Information**

Total FFY '11 CHIP Allotment -- \$239,369,074  
FFY '11 Enhanced Matching Rate --75.73%

*Date Last Updated: CMS, CMCS, CAHPG, DCHIP, March 31, 2011*