



Arkansas State Programs

**Down Syndrome
Connection**

OF NORTHWEST ARKANSAS

<https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/about-dhs/dms>

Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Medical Services

The state of Arkansas has many benefits available to support families. However navigating these benefits can be challenging. We would encourage you to visit the website listed above to learn more.

TEFRA-Tax Equity & Fiscal Responsibility Act. Is a Medicaid program for children under the age of 19 years old with a disability. Premiums are based on a sliding scale and pick up charges after primary insurance has paid. Very beneficial because most insurances have caps on therapies, such as (PT) physical therapy, (OT) occupational therapy & (SP) speech therapy. Contact information: humanservices.arkansas.gov or Benton & Washington counties-Amanda Bunch 870-423-3351.

Medicaid Waiver-A division of the Medicaid program that allows your loved one to remain living at home or in community with support staff instead of in an institution. FYI: there is a long waiting list and some families have been waiting for years (10+ years). Children's Contact Information: 501-682-2277. Adult Contact Information: 501-683-5687

PASSE-Provider-led Arkansas Shared Savings Entity. When enrolled in TEFRA and Medicaid Waiver you will be assigned PASSE and Optum will come out for an independent assessment and your child will be assigned a care coordinator. The PASSE is responsible for paying the medical claims. Contact Information: www.passe.arkansas.gov

Early intervention (0-3) under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is First Connections. The Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities Services is the "lead agency" with administrative oversight. First Connections provides supports and services for families and their children, birth to age three who have special needs. They serve infants and toddlers birth to age three with certain levels of developmental delay or a diagnosed condition likely to result in developmental delay and their families. Participation in early intervention is at no cost to families with an eligible infant or toddler. Early Intervention <https://dhs.arkansas.gov/dds/firstconnectionsweb/#fc-home>

ARHIPP-Arkansas Health Insurance Premium Payment program. A free program offered to those with employer sponsored health plans or COBRA. This program may pay part or all of your insurance premium. Must be enrolled in TEFRA to be eligible. Contact information: Myarhipp.com

US Social Security Office is located 2153 E Joyce Blvd, Fayetteville, AR 72703. Phone 800-772-1213