

Department of Public Health
and Human Services

Section:
Non-financial Requirements

HEALTHY MONTANA KIDS

Subject:
State Residency

Supersedes: **New to HMK Manual**

General Rule – A Montana resident who is less than 19 years of age may qualify for Healthy Montana Kids (HMK) coverage if all other eligibility criteria are met.

MONTANA RESIDENT

A parent who self-declares himself or herself to be living in Montana, including migrant workers, is considered a Montana resident. The parent's children are also considered Montana residents. Temporary residents with no intent to remain in the state do not fulfill the residency requirement.

Children who usually live with a parent or guardian in another state and are in Montana during a school break or summer vacation are not Montana residents. They are 'temporarily absent' from their custodial parent or guardian and could be eligible for health care coverage in the state where the custodial parent or guardian resides.

Example: A child who resides in Minnesota during the school year and visits the other parent in Montana during summer breaks is a Minnesota resident.

NOTE: HMK coverage will terminate the end of the month a child permanently moves from Montana or the end of the month HMK discovers the child has moved.

TEMPORARY ABSENCE

Children who are temporarily absent from their home in Montana may continue to be insured under HMK.

Example: A child who resides with a parent in one Montana town but stays with the other parent in another Montana town during school breaks does not lose HMK coverage.

Example: A child who resides with a parent in Montana during the school year and visits grandparents in North Dakota during summer breaks does not lose HMK coverage.

Example: An HMK-enrolled child who is away from home for the sole purpose of receiving medical care may continue to be insured under HMK (e.g., receiving care at a burn unit in Washington State).

EXAMPLE: An HMK-enrolled child who is away from home for the sole purpose of attending boarding school or another educational facility (i.e., 18 year old away at college) may continue to be insured under HMK.

**HMK BENEFITS
WHILE OUT-OF-
STATE**

When a child temporarily resides or visits outside of Montana, HMK benefits may be limited. Families should check with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana (BCBSMT) regarding medical services available while out-of-state.

Regular BCBSMT Services.....1-800-447-7828 ext. 8647
Telecommunications Device for Deaf (TDD).1-800-447-7828 ext. 8610
Limited English Proficiency1-800-447-7828 ext. 8647

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