



SPECIAL MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

NUTRITION, FEEDING & SWALLOWING SERVICES

WHAT ARE THE SMS NUTRITION, FEEDING & SWALLOWING SERVICES?

Special Medical Services (SMS) supports networks of Dietitians and Feeding & Swallowing Specialists who serve children with special health care needs throughout community settings across the State. It is a well-established network of highly competent providers who work with parents, physicians and other community service providers to create a coordinated feeding team for each child.

WHO ARE THE CHILDREN WE SERVE?

- Children birth to age 21 years of age regardless of family income
 - Who have special health care needs with nutrition and/or feeding and swallowing challenges
 - Who are residents of New Hampshire

WHAT DO SERVICES INCLUDE?

- Initial nutrition, feeding & swallowing evaluation to be held at a location of the family's choice (i.e. home or school).
- Follow -up visits
- Consultation to Early Supports and Services and school teams.
- Development of Safe Eating Plans and Diet Order forms for school meal programs.
- Coordination and assessment of swallow studies, available at six hospitals statewide.
- Attendance with families for specialty clinics

HOW TO GET A REFERRAL TO NUTRITION, FEEDING & SWALLOWING:

Referrals come from primary care physicians, specialty care physicians, Early Supports & Services, parents, schools and specialty clinics. Families must first complete an application to Special Medical Services. The application is reviewed and if determined appropriate for services the family is contacted and if they have not yet been received medical records will be requested. Families will then be contacted by the Nutrition and/or Feeding & Swallowing provider who will set up an appointment. Medicaid and private insurance will be billed for services. Families will not be directly billed for any services provided by Special Medical Services.

For more information please call SMS at 1-800-852-3345 (ext. 4488) or 603-271-4488 or the Nutrition, Feeding & Swallowing Coordinator at 1-800-830-4917 or 606-5456 (ext. 173).

**Special Medical Services
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