

ESSENTIAL HEALTH BENEFITS

How will benefits be ensured?

2023

List of Essential Health Benefits—CA DHCS

Outpatient (Ambulatory) Services

Physician services
Hospital outpatient & outpatient clinic services
Outpatient surgery (Includes anesthesiologist services.)
Podiatry
Chiropractic
Allergy care
Treatment therapies (chemotherapy, radiation therapy, etc.)
Dialysis/hemodialysis

Emergency Services

Emergency Room services
All inpatient and outpatient services that are necessary for the treatment of an emergency medical condition, including dental services, as certified by the attending physician or other appropriate provider.
Ambulance services

Hospitalization

Inpatient hospital services
Anesthesiologist services
Surgical services (bariatric, reconstructive surgery, etc.)
Organ & tissue transplantation

Maternity and Newborn Care

Prenatal care
Delivery and postpartum care
Breastfeeding education
Nurse midwife services
Licensed midwife services

Mental health and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Services

Outpatient mental health services
Outpatient specialty Mental health services
Inpatient specialty mental health services
Outpatient substance use disorder services
Residential treatment services
Voluntary inpatient detoxification

Prescription Drugs

Coverage is at least the greater of one drug in each U.S. Pharmacopeia (USP) category and class. Beneficiaries may receive up to a 100-day supply of many medications.

Programs such as physical and occupational therapy (known as Rehabilitative & Habilitative Services) and devices

Physical therapy
Speech therapy / Audiology
Occupational therapy
Acupuncture
Cardiac rehabilitation
Pulmonary rehabilitation
Skilled nursing facility services (90 days)
Medical supplies, equipment and appliances (including implanted hearing devices)
Durable medical equipment
Orthotics/prostheses
Hearing aids
Home Health Services

The government has increasingly been more prescriptive about this list. Because of the broad nature of the original list, bureaucrats can argue that everything including the kitchen sink fits in one of these categories. Including Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) many of which are not historically considered in the realm of healthcare; such as, housing, financial assistance, etc.