

*Key Provisions of the Children's Health Insurance Program  
Reauthorization Act of 2009*

In February of 2009, President Obama signed legislation reauthorizing the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and financing CHIP through 2013. The Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA) of 2009 creates many new tools and opportunities as well as some new requirements for CHIP and Medicaid programs. NASHP is assisting states with implementing these new provisions, and working to support federal-state dialogue and partnership efforts to utilize CHIPRA's provisions effectively to improve children's coverage. Key provisions of CHIPRA include:

**Funding**

- Increase in multi-year funding through 2013; \$33 billion over four and a half years above previous levels
- Modifies the formula for state funding distribution to remove unintended disincentives for increasing enrollment
- Will cover an estimated 4.1 million children that would otherwise be uninsured

**New Opportunities for Outreach and Enrollment**

- \$100 million for outreach and enrollment, with focus on reaching children who are already eligible as well as those who are hardest to reach
- Enhances administrative funding for translation services
- Performance bonuses for states adopting specified simplification strategies and exceeding Medicaid enrollment targets
- Support for express lane eligibility, offering new tools and flexibility for enrolling children who participate in other federal programs

**New Coverage and Benefits Flexibility**

- Removes the barriers imposed by the CMS "August 17 directive"
- Creates a new state option to cover all legally residing immigrant children and pregnant women
- Creates a new state option to cover pregnant women in CHIP
- Provides an option for providing dental coverage that "wraps around" private coverage
- Attempts to reduce barriers for states to provide coverage through premium assistance by subsidizing the purchase of Employer-Sponsored Insurance (ESI)

**New Tools for Quality**

- Requires federal developments of a core set of pediatric quality measures for voluntary use by Medicaid and CHIP
- Provides funding for demonstration projects on quality improvement and health information technology for children

**New Mandates**

- Applies the citizenship and identity documentation requirement to CHIP programs and provides new verification options
- Applies many managed care beneficiary protections to CHIP
- Requires the Prospective Payment System for reimbursing FQHCs and RHCs
- Requires dental coverage and mental health parity
- Establishes new data and reporting requirements