

Social Services Estimating Conference
Florida Kidcare Program
December 4 and 21, 2023
Executive Summary

The Social Services Estimating Conference convened on December 4 and 21, 2023, to adopt caseload and expenditure forecasts for the Kidcare Program through June 2029. Because of overlap with the Medikids program component, the package is traditionally held open to address the adopted rate increases from the Medicaid conference before it is finalized.

Beginning with the enactment of the original law regarding public health emergencies, the Conference has assumed that the pandemic-induced drain of children from the Kidcare Program into Medicaid would reverse when they are no longer deemed eligible for Medicaid. In this regard, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328) ended the continuous coverage provision for Medicaid on March 31, 2023. Effectively, this allowed Medicaid redeterminations to begin in April 2023, which the prior conference incorporated into its forecast. Subsequent to that conference, the state schedule was delayed. While these changes alone are still expected to lead to growth in the entire Kidcare Program, the passage of HB 121 (Ch.2023-277, Laws of Florida) during the 2023 Session further leads to increased participation. This law raises the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) threshold for subsidized recipients from 200% to 300% and will affect not only the current split between subsidized and unsubsidized caseloads, but also families who are not currently enrolled in any Kidcare program but have incomes falling within the extended range. While the prior forecast assumed the threshold change would begin in January 2024, it is now not expected until April 2024 as federal approval is currently being sought for the change.

Despite these upward pressures, the annual caseload projections for the entire Kidcare Program are lower than the July 2023 estimates across the entire forecast. In this regard, the total caseload projection is lower than the previous forecast by 3,687 in FY 2023-24 and by 7,476 in FY 2024-25. Beginning in FY 2025-26, the caseload gap between the new and old forecasts reduces, but it is never eliminated.

For FY 2023-24, a General Revenue surplus of \$6.4 million is expected relative to the current year's appropriation, and for FY 2024-25, a General Revenue shortfall of \$81.5 million is expected relative to the current year's recurring appropriation. In the subsequent years, the need for additional General Revenue rises from \$120.6 million in FY 2025-26 to \$203.0 million in FY 2028-29. The magnitude of the difference between the FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 results is related to an expected decline in the Enhanced FMAP rate. Initially, additional state dollars to offset the decline would have been necessary beginning in FY 2020-21; however, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116-127), signed into law March 18, 2020, provided states and territories with a temporary 6.2 percentage-point increase in the regular FMAP, affecting the Enhanced FMAP for FY 2020-21, FY 2021-22, FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24. The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328) phased out the extra 6.2% over the April to December 2023 period.

The first table that follows provides the new caseload projections for the current and upcoming fiscal years. The second table that follows provides the final expenditure forecast through FY 2028-29.

KIDCARE AVERAGE MONTHLY ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

FLORIDA HEALTHY KIDS*	FY23-24	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26-27	FY27-28	FY28-29
July 2023 SSEC	142,322	191,905	208,181	217,825	224,625	230,486
December 2023 SSEC	142,604	190,916	208,593	219,684	226,429	234,541
Change	282	(989)	412	1,859	1,804	4,055

MEDIKIDS**	FY23-24	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26-27	FY27-28	FY28-29
July 2023 SSEC	21,512	35,486	38,463	39,834	40,591	41,236
December 2023 SSEC	17,444	28,849	31,962	33,486	34,240	35,124
Change	(4,068)	(6,637)	(6,501)	(6,348)	(6,351)	(6,112)

CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES	FY23-24	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26-27	FY27-28	FY28-29
July 2023 SSEC	10,516	17,076	18,284	19,012	19,498	19,894
December 2023 SSEC	10,709	17,376	18,778	19,624	20,105	20,774
Change	193	300	494	612	607	880

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH	FY23-24	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26-27	FY27-28	FY28-29
July 2023 SSEC	396	606	654	687	709	725
December 2023 SSEC	302	456	491	516	533	545
Change	(94)	(150)	(163)	(171)	(176)	(180)

TOTALS	FY23-24	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26-27	FY27-28	FY28-29
July 2023 SSEC	174,746	245,072	265,582	277,358	285,423	292,340
December 2023 SSEC	171,059	237,596	259,824	273,311	281,306	290,983
Change	(3,687)	(7,476)	(5,758)	(4,047)	(4,117)	(1,357)

*Averages include Healthy Kids Full Pay enrollment

**Averages include Medikids Full Pay enrollment

KIDCARE PROJECTED EXPENDITURES

FISCAL YEAR 2023-24	FY 2023-24 Recurring Appropriations	Projected Expenditures	Surplus/(Deficit)
	\$148,870,932	\$142,488,712	\$6,382,220
	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 23-24	\$42,751,218	\$12,797,809	\$29,953,410
	\$371,779,140	\$355,219,776	\$16,559,364
Total	\$563,401,290	\$510,506,296	\$52,894,994
	\$148,870,932	\$230,362,674	(\$81,491,742)
	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 24-25	\$42,751,218	\$15,383,306	\$27,367,913
	\$371,779,140	\$541,409,975	(\$169,630,835)
Total	\$563,401,290	\$787,155,955	(\$223,754,664)
	\$148,870,932	\$269,509,126	(\$120,638,194)
	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 25-26	\$42,751,218	\$16,938,847	\$25,812,372
	\$371,779,140	\$609,020,760	(\$237,241,620)
Total	\$563,401,290	\$895,468,733	(\$332,067,442)
	\$148,870,932	\$300,315,004	(\$151,444,072)
	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 26-27	\$42,751,218	\$17,855,498	\$24,895,720
	\$371,779,140	\$659,589,476	(\$287,810,336)
Total	\$563,401,290	\$977,759,977	(\$414,358,687)
	\$148,870,932	\$325,218,624	(\$176,347,692)
	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 27-28	\$42,751,218	\$18,496,802	\$24,254,416
	\$371,779,140	\$703,425,234	(\$331,646,094)
Total	\$563,401,290	\$1,047,140,660	(\$483,739,369)
	\$148,870,932	\$351,857,430	(\$202,986,498)
	\$0	\$0	\$0
FY 28-29	\$42,751,218	\$19,128,662	\$23,622,557
	\$371,779,140	\$758,919,835	(\$387,140,695)
Total	\$563,401,290	\$1,129,905,926	(\$566,504,636)