

**TEFRA APPLICATION INFORMATION**

**What is TEFRA?**

The Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) is a Medicaid program that can help families receiving ongoing medical services with children younger than 19 years old. This program is only offered in a number of states and is a great way to supplement private insurance.

The TEFRA program can help pay for the cost of all medical services for eligible children. Families participating in TEFRA will pay a premium on a sliding scale, depending on their income.

\*\*If your child is approved for TEFRA, they are eligible to participate in ArHIPP, which is an additional program that is only offered to families who are enrolled in an Employer Sponsored Insurance Program such as BCBS through your employer. This program could pay in part or total, the premium that you would be paying for your primary insurance plan. This application is available on line here, https://www.myarhipp.com/apply/index.html.

**Eligibility:**

Approval is based on Financial Eligibility (above the levels of income that would qualify for Medicaid A or B) and a Medical Evaluation Process to determine if there is a warranted need for additional funding.

* If a child has been receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) within one year prior to applying for TEFRA, but has lost this funding due to income, they may still qualify for TEFRA
* If a child DOES NOT receive SSI funding, then a Medical Review Team will review your child’s medical records to establish whether or not they qualify for additional funding based on their medical needs. When completing the TEFRA application, please list all specialists/providers that are involved in your child’s care and sign the release allowing the Arkansas Department of Human Services to request medical records from those providers.

**Monthly Premiums:**

Premiums are based on a family’s income. Payments are auto-drafted via the bank each month or you can pay by check/money order. Credit card payments are not allowed. You choose your payment option when your application is approved. You will be required to pay the first two months of premiums in advance by check or money order upon approval, regardless of your payment selection. If you choose the bank draft option, the premium will automatically be withdrawn from your bank account after the first two months premium has been prepaid.

If the premium is not paid for three months while your child receives TEFRA, the coverage will end. If that happens, you will have to begin the application process again from the beginning.

Below is the table of financial responsibility based on income per family. Income is determined based on the most recent tax return processed.

From To % above FPL From To

$0 $25,000 0.00 $0 $0

$25,001 $50,000 1.00% $20 $41

$50,001 $75,000 1.25% $52 $78

$75,001 $100,000 1.50% $93 $125

$100,001 $125,00 1.75% $145 $182

$125,001 $150,000 2.00% $208 $250

$150,001 $175,000 2.25% $281 $328

$175,001 $200,000+ 2.50% $364 $416

**Completing the Application:**

The application is lengthy, but it is important to complete it thoroughly, especially when referring to specialists being seen, parent concerns, or including supporting documents.

There is a webinar you can view at the following link to provide you with additional information.

[TEFRA - Arkansas Department of Human Services](https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/divisions-shared-services/medical-services/healthcare-programs/tefra/), https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/divisions-shared-services/medical-services/healthcare-programs/tefra/

The complete TEFRA application can be found at:

[2020\_TEFRA\_ApplicationPacket.pdf (arkansas.gov)](https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020_TEFRA_ApplicationPacket.pdf), https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020\_TEFRA\_ApplicationPacket.pdf

**You can apply ONLINE:**

[**How to apply for TEFRA coverage - Arkansas Department of Human Services**](https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/divisions-shared-services/medical-services/healthcare-programs/tefra/how-to-apply-for-tefra-coverage/)**, https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/divisions-shared-services/medical-services/healthcare-programs/tefra/how-to-apply-for-tefra-coverage/**

**There is a paper application, but you can also select to “apply online:.**

**Items to include with your application:**

☐ Copy of child’s insurance card, front/back

☐ Copy of birth certificate

☐ Copy of social security card

☐ Most recent tax return form 1040

☐ Copies of all therapy evaluations that have been completed

☐ Daily notes/progress updates of all therapies currently being received-please request these from providers and allow 5 business days for therapists to complete these and email to you

☐ Proof of Residency with child’s name on document (if too young, proof of residency of parent/caregiver)

☐ Names, date of birth, age, and social security numbers of all members living in the household

☐ Documents/progress notes from all specialists being seen for ongoing medical care supporting the need for additional funding. This can be in a letter format, or you can request all progress notes from medical records from the facility.

Once all items are together and completed, you can hand deliver to the DHS Benton County office, or deliver by mail. Addresses and contact information for Benton and Washington Counties are provided below:

**Benton County:** **Washington County:**

Arkansas Department of Human Services Arkansas Department of Human Services

Benton County Washington County

900 SE 13th Court, 4044 Frontage Rd.,

Bentonville, AR 72712-5998 Fayetteville, AR 72703-2084

Phone: 479-273-9011 Phone:479-521-1270

**Berryville DHS Office: Joyside Consulting**

**\*This is the best resource for TEFRA information!** Amber Leonard

Phone: 870-423-3351 Phone: 479-310-0660

**What happens after submission?**

Once the TEFRA application is submitted, your application will go into review by the state and will usually take 90 days, sometimes longer, before a determination is made. While you wait, you have the option to pay a decreased rate of $29.02 per one hour session with the understanding that if TEFRA is denied any balance accrued during that time will be your responsibility. In that instance, we would offer a payment plan that works for you to pay the balance. If TEFRA is approved, any eligible claims will be rebilled and you will be reimbursed anything you have paid in that was covered by TEFRA.

If you decide to proceed with the TEFRA application, please contact us once your application is submitted with the confirmation number and submission date so that we can document the information and begin to honor the TEFRA pending rate of $29.02/session.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions before, during or after this process. We appreciate you choosing Fusion Therapy Center to be a part of your child’s care. Thank you!

Jeanne Hale, MS, CCC-SLP—Owner Fusion Therapy Center

Christina Cerasale, PT, DPT – Owner Fusion Therapy Center

Leann Houghton - Billing Specialist/Credentialing