

Can Help You!

Since You're Not a Kid Anymore Now That You're in High School When You're 18

Three age-specific versions of this 30-page guide contain information and activities to help young people take a more active role in managing their health care. Also available in Spanish. (from Institute for Child Health Policy/University of Florida).



Age-Specific Planning Workbooks

These planning guides for ages 12-14, 15-17 and 18+ are designed to help parents and youth look at future goals and develop a health care transition plan. Spanish and English versions can be completed online or downloaded (from ICHP/UF).

Talking With Your Doctor And Other Healthcare Professionals



This 18-minute video teaches teens how to communicate effectively with health care providers (from ICHP/UF).

A Guide to the Florida Juvenile Justice System

For families of youth with disabilities or chronic health conditions who have been referred to Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, in an easy-to-read FAQ format. Also available in Spanish and Haitian Creole.



Health Care Transition Training Program for Professionals

FREE CME/CE Credits!

This web-based training provides a comprehensive overview of how professionals can help prepare youth for their eventual transition to adult health care. Free continuing education credits are available to physicians, nurses, psychologists, social workers, mental health counselors, and dentists.



Become a fan on **FACEBOOK** and share your health care transition experiences.

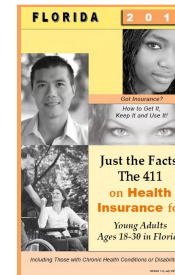
For more information about FloridaHATS or the materials listed in this brochure, please contact Janet Hess, DrPH, MPH, Project Director, University of South Florida, (813) 259-8604, jhess@health.usf.edu. You may also contact Kelli Stannard, RN, BSN, CMS Managed Care Plan Operations, (850) 245-4200, Kelli.Stannard@flhealth.gov

www.FloridaHATS.org



How FloridaHATS ...

These resources and many more are available at www.FloridaHATS.org.



Just the Facts: The 411 on Health Insurance for Young Adults Ages 18-30 in Florida

This guide is designed to help all young adults in Florida identify, access, and maintain health insurance coverage that meets their needs. Also available in Spanish and Creole.

Health Services Directory for Young Adults

Our web-based directory lists health-related services and programs for young adults living in Florida, searchable by community and type of service. We also provide links to other useful directories.

10 Steps to Successful Health Care Transition

A short but valuable handout for families and youth of all ages. Available in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole.



Transition 2 Go

A series of informational briefs about public assistance and social service programs for adults with disabilities or chronic health conditions in Florida. Also, available in Spanish and Haitian Creole.

How Parents Can Be Effective Advocates in the IEP Meeting

A short guide outlining 10 steps that parents of students with disabilities can use to prepare for school IEP meetings. Also, available in Spanish and Haitian Creole.

Visit www.FloridaHATS.org to view in large print

Para español, visite nuestro sitio web. Pou kreyòl, souple vizite sit Entènèt nou.

Who We Are

Florida Health and Transition Services (FloridaHATS) is a collaborative program of the Florida Department of Health, Children's Medical Services. Our goal is to ensure all youth and young adults, including those with disabilities or chronic conditions, successfully transition from pediatric to adult-oriented systems of health care.



We're committed to empowering and supporting young people with special health care needs as they enter every aspect of adult life, including health care, work and independent living.



We value youth and family involvement in decision making at all levels.

Our Background

Advocates in Florida have worked hard to increase awareness of the difficulties young people with disabilities or chronic health conditions encounter as they age out of pediatric health care. Problems include finding adult physicians who are qualified and willing to provide care, difficulty accessing affordable health insurance, and not adequately preparing youth to manage their own health care.

Young people who don't receive age-appropriate and preventive care are more likely to experience disease complications, increased emergency room visits and hospitalizations, as well as development of secondary disabling conditions – all factors that impact quality of life and ability to work.

In 2008, the Florida Legislature established a statewide Task Force to assess these issues. The resulting Task Force report outlined several strategies to build a system of care for transitioning youth and young adults that is comprehensive, coordinated, and continuous. A key recommendation was to establish a program within Children's Medical Services (CMS), Florida's Title V program for children with special health care needs, to oversee implementation of Florida's strategic plan for health care transition. We subsequently adopted the program name Florida Health and Transition Services, or FloridaHATS. To read the legislative report and review our strategic plan, go to www.FloridaHATS.org.

As we implement the state plan, we continually look to youth, families, and our partners in health care, education, vocational rehabilitation, developmental disabilities and social services to help us refine our strategies and activities. From regularly scheduled webinars to conferences to focus groups, community feedback is a critical and ongoing process for FloridaHATS.

What We Do

FloridaHATS provides leadership in bringing together consumers and service providers to address the complex issues associated with health care transition. Our activities are focused in 4 areas: health care financing, education and training, service delivery systems and advocacy.

Health Care Financing

Obtaining and maintaining health insurance is a major problem for many youth with disabilities or chronic health conditions as they leave high school. One of our first activities was to develop a resource guide that outlines the array of health insurance options available to young adults up to age 30 living in Florida. We regularly update the web-based guide to reflect policy changes and new legislation.

In addition to educating consumers and providers about current financing options, we engage insurers and other funders in developing policies that support patient-centered medical homes for youth and young adults, such as care coordination and co-management activities. An overarching goal is to allow young people in Florida to work and contribute to their communities without loss of health care benefits.



Education and Training

FloridaHATS collaborates with partners throughout the state to develop and disseminate educational materials and resources for youth and young adults, families, caregivers, health care providers, teachers and other professionals.

We strive to empower young people to better manage their medical conditions, and to increase the capacity of providers to deliver high quality care. Our web site is a portal for a wide selection of health care transition education and training resources.

Service Delivery Systems

Our network of health care experts provides guidance in identifying best practices, establishing quality of care guidelines, and developing model programs - such as the nationally recognized JaxHATS, a medical home program for transitioning youth and young adults in Jacksonville. We work with communities to develop service networks that span pediatric and adult systems. To date, we've organized 4 regional public-private coalitions:



HillsboroughHATS, PanhandleHATS, Northeast FloridaHATS and South FloridaHATS. These coalitions are paving the way for all Florida regions in building coordinated community-based systems of care.

Advocacy

FloridaHATS works on behalf of all youth and young adults with special health care needs in partnership with advocacy groups and organizations throughout the state and nation. From financing to education to service delivery issues, we collaborate with partners like the Florida Association of Community Health Centers and the Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics to adopt policies that empower and support young people in their transition to adult life.

Visit our website and find transition tools to help you!