Accessing Health Services in Illinois



Healthcare

All new arrivals should visit a primary care provider within 90 days of arriving to Chicago. Cook County Health (CCH) is the health system where you will access healthcare.

Here are some ways you can see a healthcare provider:

- After arriving in a City shelter, you can opt-in for medical care and transportation services will take you directly from the shelter to a nearby clinic.
- Some shelters have healthcare teams that do appointments in the shelters 1-2 times a week.
- Some shelters partner with nearby clinics where you can see a doctor and get other resources.
- Contacting CCH directly by calling 773-395-9050 or the CCH support line at 312-864-0200.



Vaccinations

Certain vaccinations are required to become a U.S. citizen and some vaccines are required for children to attend childcare centers or schools in Illinois. Vaccines help protect you and those you love from dangerous, contagious diseases. Vaccines that are recommended and may be required include:

- > Varicella > Diptheria
- > Polio
- > Meningococcal > Pneumococcal
- > Tetanus
- > HiB
- > Hepatitis A
- > Measles > Mumps
- > Hepatitis B
- > Rubella
- > Pertussis
- > Rotavirus
- > Rubella
- > Influenza
- > COVID-19



Pregnant People

People who are pregnant, have recently given birth or are breastfeeding sign up for the Woman, Infants, and Children (WIC) program, which provides food and nutrition services. Call 217-782-2166 to schedule an appointment.



Newborn Care

Family Connects Chicago coordinates nurse visits for mothers and newborns born in a Chicago hospital. Call **312-745-2229** to schedule a nurse visit.



Preparing for School or Childcare

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) program provides free vaccines to children with no or limited insurance. More information in the section below.



Find Vaccines

Looking for low-cost or free vaccines? You can search for a provider near you!

vfc.illinois.gov/search/ or icirr.org/healthcare-resources-inter-map

