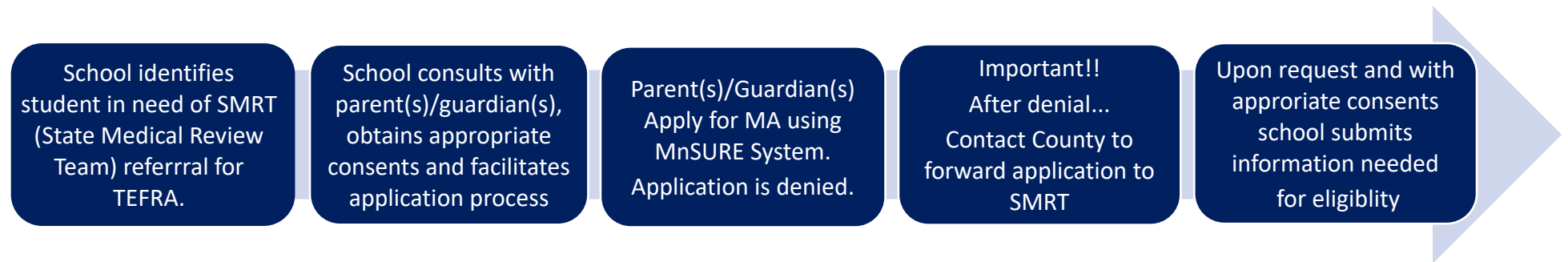


Tefra Guidance for Schools Checklist

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) offers a health-related benefit called TEFRA (Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act). This benefit may allow students who qualify for special education services to qualify for medical assistance (MA) without considering the income and assets of parents. Even if your child is covered under another insurance, they may still qualify for TEFRA, which can sometimes pay the out-of-pocket cost of the other insurance. TEFRA has been an option for families to qualify for MA since 1982. It required a parental fee. As of July 1, 2023, the parental fee for TEFRA was removed. We are encouraging families to consider applying for and using TEFRA to access necessary services and supports for students from Birth to age 18.

Below is a flow chart to help navigate the TEFRA application process.



1. **School identifies student in need of SMRT (State Medical Review Team) referral for TEFRA.** Based on diagnosis, comprehensive evaluation, and Individualized Education Program (IEP) plan. [View bulletin “DHS Eliminates Parental Fees for Children Receiving MA under the TEFRA Option and HCBS Waivers” on the DHS website.](#)
2. **School consults with parent(s)/Guardian(s), obtains appropriate consents and facilitates application process.** View [General Consent/Authorization for Review of Services](#) and [Authorization to Release Protected Health Information on the DHS website.](#)
3. [MnSURE System Application](#) submitted:
 - a. If approved, the student is eligible for and receives MA.
 - b. If already on a MA program, a student may qualify for TEFRA. Contact your county financial worker for assistance.
 - c. If denied, move to step 4.
4. **Important!! After denial, contact county to forward application to SMRT**

[View SMRT Children’s Disability Worksheet on the DHS website](#) (additional document to be completed by parent/guardian to the best of their ability):

Some examples of **possible** eligibility:

- Significant needs identified through their special education in any disability category
- Does the student have one or more of the following diagnoses?
 - a. Cystic Fibrosis
 - b. Down Syndrome

- c. A catastrophic congenital disorder that very seriously interferes with development or functioning
- d. Cerebral Palsy with a need for a walker, bilateral canes, bilateral crutches, or a wheeled and seated mobility device
- e. Muscular dystrophy with a need for a walker, bilateral canes, bilateral crutches, or a wheeled and seated mobility device
- f. Spinal cord disorder (including Spina bifida) with a need for a walker, bilateral canes, bilateral crutches, or a wheeled and seated mobility device
- g. Visual impairment with remaining vision in the better eye after best correction or 20/200 or less
- h. Visual impairment with contraction of the visual field in the better eye, with
 - 1) The widest diameter subtending an angle around the point of fixation no greater than 20 degrees, or
 - 2) The widest diameter subtending an angle around the point of fixation no greater than 20 degrees, or
 - 3) An MD of 22 decibels or greater, determined by automated static threshold perimetry that measures the central 30 degrees of the visual field, or
 - 4) A visual field efficiency of 20 percent or less, determined by kinetic perimetry.
- i. Hearing loss without a cochlear implant and
 - 1) Under age 5 with an average air conduction hearing threshold of 60 decibels or greater in the better ear, or
 - 2) Between ages 5-18
 - a) with an average air conduction hearing threshold of 70 decibels or greater in the better ear and an average bone conduction hearing threshold of 40 decibels or greater in the better ear
 - b) With a word recognition score of 40 percent or less in the better ear determined using a standardized list of phonetically balanced monosyllabic words
- j. Hearing loss treated with a cochlear implant and
 - 1) Under age 5, or
 - 2) Any age with initial implantation less than 1 year ago, or
 - 3) Any age with a word recognition score of 60 percent or less determined using the HINT or the HINT-C
- k. Chronic kidney disease requiring dialysis
- l. Congenital limb deficiencies in both upper extremities resulting in an inability to independently initiate, sustain, and complete age-appropriate activities involving fine and gross movements
- m. Congenital limb deficiencies in the lower extremities with a need for a walker, bilateral canes, bilateral crutches, or a wheeled and seated mobility device
- n. Acquired amputations of any of the following:
 - 1) Both upper extremities at any level above the wrists
 - 2) One upper extremity at or above the wrist and one lower extremity at or above the ankle with a need for a walker, bilateral canes, bilateral crutches, or a wheeled and seated mobility device
 - 3) Hemipelvectomy or hip disarticulation
- o. Any CAL condition - medical conditions that, by definition, meet Social Security's standards for disability benefits. [View "Disability Evaluation under Social Security" on the Social Security Administration website](https://www.ssa.gov/disability/professionals/bluebook/ChildhoodListings.htm)
(<https://www.ssa.gov/disability/professionals/bluebook/ChildhoodListings.htm>)