

# YOUTH RIGHTS: RESOURCES FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING TEENS

## Is there special medical coverage for pregnant women?

Yes. Most pregnant teens who are low income are eligible for Medical Assistance (MA). MA is general medical insurance which covers any services that are medically necessary for the recipient. If you are pregnant, you will receive prenatal care through your MA coverage. If you are in substitute care (foster care), you will most likely be receiving MA. If you are not in care, she should apply for MA at the local county assistance office.



## What health coverage is available for my baby?

Most newborns and children up until age 6 are eligible for health care coverage through the Healthy Beginnings programs through their Medical Assistance coverage. After age six, your child will likely be eligible for Medical Assistance or coverage through the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Make sure you apply at your local county assistance office. You can also apply online at <https://www.humanservices.state.pa.us/compass>.

## What is the Nurse-Family Partnership?

This is a great program for first time moms of any age. A nurse will visit you while you are pregnant and until your child is two years old.

The nurse will help you and your baby stay healthy and will help you with parenting skills and with finding community resources for you and your child. Go to the [www.nursefamilypartnership.org](http://www.nursefamilypartnership.org) to find out the contact information for a program in your area.

## Are there programs for teen parents in the schools?

Yes. Most public schools in Pennsylvania have a program for teen parents that is called Education Leading to Employment and Training (ELECT) .

These programs provide many services to teen moms and dad, including childcare or help finding child care, tutoring, employment readiness skills, and parenting instruction.

You can find a program in your area by going to:

<http://ppt-elect.center-school.org/index.cfm?pageid=3487>.



## What is the Women Infants and Children (WIC) Program?

WIC is a program that provides supplemental food and nutrition services to pregnant women and their children until age 5. Pregnant women, postpartum and breastfeeding women, and children under age five who are low income may be eligible for WIC. WIC provides foods like milk, cheese, and eggs. WIC also provides referrals for other services for parents and their children. You can apply for WIC at your local WIC office. To find your local WIC office (Philadelphia residents) call 1-800-743-3300 or check out

<http://www.northwic.org/Overview/index.html>

## What other programs will help keep me and my child healthy?

In addition to the Nurse-Family Partnership Program, often county health departments also have special services for young parents. Call your county health department to find out if there are services you may want to take advantage of. Please also see the following fact sheets for helpful information for teen parents: Early Childhood Education and Intervention and Low Income Child Care.

Juvenile  
Law  
Center