



Association of Administrators  
in Academic Pediatrics

# Medicaid Essentials for Pediatric Department Leaders

As Medicaid policies evolve, staying informed is no longer optional. For many children's hospitals and pediatric departments, it represents a substantial portion of overall funding. The AMSPDC Medicaid Education Series is designed specifically for department chairs and administrators to strengthen their understanding of Medicaid structure, financing and payment—building the foundation needed to make informed decisions and advocate effectively for your departments and patients.

The series kicks off in May with two timely sessions. Join us to deepen your insight into one of the most critical—and increasingly complex—funding streams in children's health care.

We encourage you to share this with team members who would gain from insights into Medicaid policy and financing.

Register now to submit your questions in advance and be part of the live Q&A

## Session 1: Medicaid 101: What Pediatric Department Leaders Should Know Speakers: Joan Alker and Jim Perrin

Whether you're new to Medicaid or just need a solid refresher, this session is designed for you. Medicaid experts, Joan Alker and Dr. Jim Perrin will provide a practical Medicaid 101 session for Pediatric Department Chairs and administrators to understand the structure of Medicaid, how financing works and why it matters to your department.

The session will cover key components of Medicaid payment and policy that directly impact pediatric care and departmental budgets. You'll leave with a stronger foundation to support strategic decision-making and advocacy efforts at both the institutional and state level.



Friday, May 9  
12:00-1:00PM EST  
[REGISTER HERE](#)

## Session 2: Federal Threats to Medicaid Speaker: Edwin Park

Medicaid is facing unprecedented federal threats that could profoundly affect pediatric care delivery, financing, and access. In this timely and essential session, policy expert Edwin Park unpacks the latest developments in federal budget reconciliation, proposed Medicaid cuts, and regulatory shifts—including per capita caps, work requirements, and reductions in expansion funding.

With Medicaid representing a major source of financing for pediatric departments, this session will give leaders the knowledge needed to anticipate potential impacts, inform institutional strategy, and advocate effectively at the state and national levels.



Wednesday, May 21  
1:00-2:00 PM EST  
[REGISTER HERE](#)

# Meet the Speakers



## Joan Alker, MPhil

Joan Alker is Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Center for Children and Families (CCF) and a Research Professor at the Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy. A nationally recognized expert on Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), she is the lead author of CCF's annual report on children's health care coverage trends. Alker has published in journals such as JAMA and Health Affairs, and has written extensively on issues including Medicaid Section 1115 waivers, rural health, child and family policy, and premium assistance, including multiple reports for the Kaiser Family Foundation.

## James Perrin, MD

James M. Perrin, MD, is Professor of Pediatrics at Harvard Medical School and former Director of the Division of General Pediatrics at MassGeneral Hospital for Children, where he also founded the Center for Child and Adolescent Health Policy. A past president of both the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Academic Pediatric Association, he has long focused on health care for children with disabilities and Medicaid policy. Dr. Perrin has collaborated with Massachusetts Medicaid to expand coverage and access, and has published over 250 articles, chapters, and commentaries. He was the editor of the 2024 NASEM report *Launching Lifelong Health by Improving Health Care for Children, Youth, and Families*.



## Edwin Park, JD

Edwin Park is a Research Professor at the Georgetown University McCourt School of Public Policy and a leading national expert on Medicaid, CHIP, and the Affordable Care Act. His work focuses on federal and state health financing, including Medicaid expansion, provider taxes, and drug pricing. Park previously served as Vice President for Health Policy at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and held senior roles at the White House National Economic Council and the U.S. Senate Finance Committee. He has testified before Congress and regularly contributes to national media coverage. He is a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance.



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