

## Resource centers

The BSCIP supports two comprehensive statewide resource centers. These centers maintain up-to-date information pertaining to brain and spinal cord injury, medical, social, financial and other resource information. They provide linkages to related initiatives and specific information to help individuals and their families cope with injury and its long-term consequences.

... centers maintain the most up-to-date information pertaining to brain and spinal cord injury, medical, social, financial and other resource information.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAM, CONTACT THE BSCIP HEADQUARTERS OFFICE:

Department of Health  
Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program

Local: 850-245-4045

Fax: 850-921-0499

Toll Free: 866-875-5660

Central Registry Toll Free: 800-342-0778

Central Registry Fax: 850-410-1975

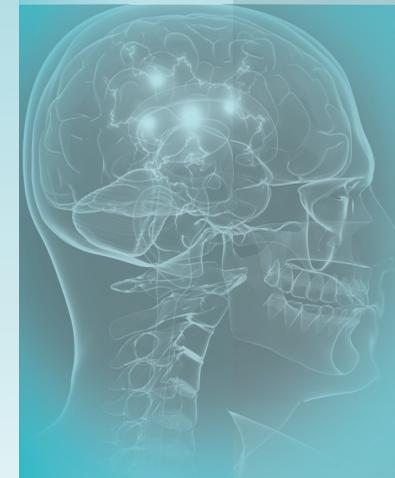
Website: [www.FloridaHealth.gov](http://www.FloridaHealth.gov)

866-875-5660 (Toll Free)

[FloridaHealth.gov](http://FloridaHealth.gov)



## Florida Department of Health Brain & Spinal Cord Injury Program



### coordinated statewide system of services:

- case management
- acute care
- rehabilitation
- transitional living
- assistive technology
- home & vehicle modifications
- home & community-based services
- resource centers
- long-term supports for survivors and families through contractual agreements with community-based agencies

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## Who are we?

The Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program (BSCIP) is a unique program designed and written into law to fulfill a need not accommodated by other agencies and programs. The Florida Legislature established the BSCIP to provide eligible individuals with traumatic brain and spinal cord injuries the opportunity to obtain necessary services to enable them to return to their homes or other community-based living.

The BSCIP is administered by the Florida Department of Health. The program is funded through traffic-related civil penalties, surcharges for driving or boating under the influence, fees on temporary license tags, and a percentage of fees from motorcycle specialty tags.

## What do we do?

The Brain and Spinal Cord Injury general program provides case management and care coordination as its primary service.

Based on the availability of funds, additional services include: acute care; inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation; transitional living; assistive technology; home and vehicle modifications; nursing home transition facilitation; and long-term supports for survivors and families through contractual agreements with community-based agencies.

These services are facilitated by employing a statewide system of case managers and rehabilitation technicians. Children receive services from Children's Medical Service nurse care coordinators and human services counselors.

The program also funds education and prevention activities by providing funding to the Brain Injury Association of Florida, the Florida Spinal Cord Injury Resource Center, the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association and others. Other services are provided through linkages with the Florida Centers for Independent Living and the Florida Department of Education/Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. Funding for research is provided to the University of Florida and the University of Miami.

## What else do we do?

### THE BSCIP MEDICAID WAIVER PROGRAM

For those individuals eligible for Medicaid and needing lifetime supports, the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program provides home and community-based services for individuals who are at risk of nursing home placement. The purpose of the waiver is to provide Medicaid eligible individuals who meet the state definition of brain and spinal cord injury and who meet nursing home level of care with the long-term community-based services and supports required to live safely and independently in the community. The annual cost is not to exceed that of skilled nursing placement.

### Who is eligible?

Florida Statute 381.76 requires that an individual must be a legal Florida resident who has sustained a moderate-to-severe traumatic brain or spinal cord injury meeting the state's definition of such injuries; has been referred to the BSCIP Central Registry; and must be medically stable to be eligible for services.

There must also be a reasonable expectation that with the provision of appropriate services and supports, the person can return to a community-based setting, rather than reside in a skilled nursing facility.

### THE STATE DEFINITION OF A BRAIN INJURY

An insult to the skull, brain, or its covering, resulting from external trauma, which produces an altered state of consciousness or anatomic, motor, sensory, cognitive or behavioral deficit.

### THE STATE DEFINITION OF A SPINAL CORD INJURY

A lesion to the spinal cord or cauda equina resulting from external trauma with evidence of significant involvement of two of the following—motor deficit, sensory deficit, or bowel and bladder dysfunction.

## Making referrals

Referrals may be called into the Central Registry at 800-342-0778 or faxed to 850-410-1975. Florida Statute (381.74) requires that all hospitals, attending physicians, public, private, or social agencies refer all new traumatic moderate-to-severe brain or spinal cord injuries to the BSCIP Central Registry.

Individuals may also refer themselves to the Central Registry by calling 800-342-0778.

## Assessment & enrollment

A BSCIP case manager or Children's Medical Services nurse care coordinator representing the program will attempt to contact the individual reported to the BSCIP Central Registry within 10 working days. The case manager or care coordinator will work with the individual and family to determine program eligibility and provide information about federal, state, and community resources. When appropriate and necessary, an individual community reintegration plan will be developed and implemented. The BSCIP is the payer of last resort and funding for services is based on availability of funds.

**BSCIP case managers will attempt to contact all individuals reported to the BSCIP Central Registry within 10 working days.**

## Designated facilities

### HOW DOES THIS WORK?

The BSCIP has developed standards for best practices for provision of acute, trauma, and inpatient/outpatient rehabilitation services. Facilities meeting these standards are

**Designated facilities strategically located throughout the state have been identified to ensure the provision of quality acute, trauma and rehabilitation services.**

strategically located throughout the state. The BSCIP has also designated transitional living facilities to assist individuals to develop the specialized skills necessary to return to their communities.

A case manager or care coordinator will provide additional information on facilities in your area.