

Children's Specialty Hospital

AT THE CENTER FOR DISCOVERY

Referral Guide



Who We Are

The Center for Discovery's Children's Specialty Hospital in Rock Hill, New York, is specifically designed for children with complex neurodevelopmental disabilities, including autism. Regulated by OPWDD, this short-term facility stabilizes crises, reduces prolonged inpatient stays, and supports children to return home with stronger routines and improved health and learning outcomes. The specialty hospital integrates medical, behavioral, nutritional, and educational care within a single, intentionally designed environment.

Who to Refer

Children and adolescents ages 5–21 who are New York State residents, have a diagnosed intellectual and/or developmental disability, must be OPWDD eligible, and may present with one or more of the following:

- At risk of residential or out-of-district placement with medical concerns (severe sleep problems, highly selective/restrictive eating, seizures, GI pain/constipation, failure to thrive).
- Currently placed out-of-state where the goal is to stabilize and return to a less restrictive in-state setting.
- Not attending or minimally attending school due to behavioral and/or medical factors (aggressive, self-injury, severe dysregulation, debilitating anxiety), especially where medical concerns may be undiagnosed.

What We Provide

- Medical stabilization (sleep, seizures, GI, nutrition, and more) alongside behavioral and educational programming.
- Family, caregiver, and school training with carryover plans to sustain progress post-discharge.
- NYSED approved in-state day school on campus for academic and functional continuity during care.

Results You Can Expect

- Behaviors reduced significantly (aggression/SIB, crisis use)
- Improved health (sleep regularity, GI comfort, seizure control, nutrition improvements)
- Improved school readiness (communication, participation, increased independence in daily routines, attendance)

Individual results vary and are typically expected within 6–12 months. All treatment plans are highly individualized.

Cost and Coverage

- No cost to families or additional costs to school districts.
- Hospital stay is an OPWDD Medicaid service

Referral Checklist

- Student IEP and most recent psychoeducational/clinical evaluations
- Medical summary (diagnosis, meds, sleep/seizure/GI history, and other pertinent medical information)
- Behavioral data (incident summaries, ABC notes, crisis plans, FBA/BIP if available)
- Attendance and current placement details
- Contact information for district case manager, family, and physician

Fast Facts

- Specialized facility for complex autism and other neurodevelopmental needs
- Integrated model with medical, behavioral, nutrition, and education
- In-state solution that helps districts return students to less-restrictive placements
- Family-centered care with practical carryover plans

How to Refer

Referrals may be initiated by school districts, pediatricians, treating physicians, case managers, agencies, and other care providers.

Rapid screening is available

Children's Specialty Hospital

195 Lake Louise Marie Rd
Rock Hill, NY 12775

For questions or assistance with this process, please contact us at:

Phone: 845-707-8889
Email: admissions@tcf.org

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