

Department of Social Services – Community Options

Overview of DSS Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)



MEDICAID LONG TERM SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

Medicaid offers long term services and supports through a variety of mechanisms

- Long Term Care – which are institutional settings
- Home and Community Based Services – both state plan and waivers

HCBS can be further broken down to by their funding mechanisms and their availability to Medicaid members

- State Plan Services – must be offered to all eligible members, cannot have a waitlist, and cannot be geographically limited
- Waiver Services – “waive” certain Medicaid requirements. These services could be limited to available slots and creates a waitlist, allows for higher income limits than standard Medicaid, and creates unique services and supports not available to all Medicaid members

HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SETTINGS RULE

Under the rule, a setting that is truly home and community based is one that:

- Is integrated in and supports access to the greater community
- Provides opportunities to seek employment and work in competitive integrated settings, engage in community life, and control personal resources
- Ensures the individual receives services in the community to the same degree of access as individuals not receiving Medicaid home and community-based services
- Is selected by the individual from among setting options, including non-disability specific settings and an option for a private unit in a residential setting
 - Person-centered service plans document the options based on the individual's needs, preferences; and for residential settings, the individual's resources
- Ensures an individual's rights of privacy, dignity, respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint
- Optimizes individual initiative, autonomy, and independence in making life choices
- Facilitates individual choice regarding services and supports, and who provides them

HOW DSS DETERMINES AN RCH MEETS THE RULE



DSS will conduct an announced onsite visit



During the visit DSS will interview an RCH staff member and 2-3 residents



For new RCHs they have to complete a self-assessment and submit to the department



The audit consists of multiple questions that verify compliance with federal rule



If DSS determines the location meets compliance, an email notification will be sent to the point of contact



Deficiencies are sent by DSS as a formal notice with expectation of a corrective action plan, then a re-review of the RCH by DSS

HCBS – STATE PLAN SERVICES

| State Plan Program | Eligibility Requirements | Services Offered (examples not inclusive of all services) |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Home Health Benefit | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Standard Medicaid | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Skilled Nursing• Home Health Aides• PT, OT, SLP |
| Community First Choice (CFC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must already be active on Medicaid• Meets Level of Care*• Live in an approved 'community setting' | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal Care Attendant (PCA)• Home Delivered Meals• Assistive Technology• Home Modifications |

HCBS – Waiver Services

| Waiver Program | Eligibility Requirements | Services Offered (examples not inclusive of all services) | Waitlist |
|------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Katie Beckett | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children, in the community, under the age of 22 with significant needs that would otherwise req Institutional Care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case Management Access to Medicaid State Plan services | Yes +4 years |
| Personal Care Attendant (PCA) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 18-64 Significant needs that would otherwise req Institutional Care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agency-based PCA Adult Day Centers Adult Family Living Personal Emergency Response Mental Health Counseling | Yes +3 years |
| Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) I & II | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 18-64 Must have a qualifying brain injury | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ABI and Adult Day Centers Independent Life Skills Training PCA Recovery Assistant Cognitive Behavioral Therapy | ABI I – closed ABI II – +4 years |
| CHCPE | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 65+ At risk of instructional care or at institutional level of care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homemaker/companion PCA Adult Day Centers | No |

| Waiver Program | Eligibility Requirements | Services Offered | Waitlist |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|-------------------|
| Autism | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary Dx of Autism Cannot have a developmental disability Dx | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical behavioral support Job coaching Life skills coaching Social skills groups Respite services | Yes +5 years |
| Comprehensive Waiver | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intellectual and/or developmental disability significant physical, behavioral or medical support needs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community living arrangements and comprehensive residential supports Day and employment services | No |
| Individual and Family Supports (IFS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intellectual and/or developmental disability focuses on in home residential supports | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported employment Individualized home supports Employment and day programs | No |
| Employment and Day Supports (EDS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intellectual and/or developmental disability Young adults transitioning from HS to work | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community based supports Employment and day programs | No |
| Mental Health | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 22+ Serious mental illness and Nursing facility level of care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community support Recovery assistance Supported employment | Yes 1-2 months |

MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON

Individuals can apply for Medicaid programs while at a qualified institution.

A qualified institution means they are in a skilled nursing facility, chronic disease hospital, or an ICF/IID facility where Medicaid is the payor

If institutionalized, they can access a DSS program called Money Follows the Person.

Through MFP, members can receive supports to determine eligibility for HCBS programs, receive transitional supports, housing assistance, and enhanced care planning supports

Currently, RCHs are not approved as a setting under MFP, however we still support the transitions of individuals into those settings through a limited benefit.

Medicaid must provide a comparable level of services and supports in the community as it is willing to cover in an institutional setting

Levels of Care

*** Skilled Nursing Facility Level of Care**

- Supervision or cueing \geq 3 Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) + need factor; OR
- Hands-on \geq 3 ADLs; OR
- Hands-on \geq 2 ADLs + need factor; OR
- A cognitive impairment which requires daily supervision to prevent harm

*** Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID)**

*** Sub-acute**

*** Chronic Disease Hospital**

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Katie Beckett Waiver 800-445-5394 Option 3

CHCPE 800-445-5394 Option 4

Autism Services - [Autism Resources - DDS - http://portal.ct.gov](http://portal.ct.gov)

To apply for MFP or CFC: <https://ct.gov/communityoptions> (211 for CFC)

DDS Services - [How to Apply for DDS Services \(ct.gov\)](#)

Mental Health Waiver - [Mental Health Waiver \(ct.gov\)](#)