

Home & Community Based Services (HCBS) & Waivers

The Iowa Home & Community Based Services (HCBS) waivers are Medicaid Programs that provide service funding & individualized supports that allow for more choice about how & where services are received.

HCBS waiver programs are for individuals with disabilities & older Iowans who need services & supports to allow them to stay in their home versus a medical institution; living, working, & playing in the community of their choice. Individuals must be determined financially eligible for Medicaid, as well as meet the level of care requirements for the waiver they are applying for and/or receiving. This means that the individual applying will need to be determined or certified by a medical professional as needing a level of care either for a nursing facility, skilled nursing facility, hospital, or intermediate care facility for the intellectually disabled.

Iowa currently has seven Medicaid HCBS waivers:

- Intellectual Disability Waiver
- Brain Injury Waiver
- Children's Mental Health Waiver
- Elderly Waiver
- Health & Disability Waiver
- AIDS/HIV Waiver
- Physical Disability Waiver

All Waivers Have Some Common Services & Supports Provided to the Individual

Case Management/Service Coordination – A community-based case manager/care coordinator is there to help plan for & ensure waiver recipients receive the services they need.

Individual Planning - All individuals who receive waiver services have a Comprehensive Service Plan. Each individual member plan should have important information about them, their goals, & the steps they & their Support Team need to take to get there. The people on the Support Team are the individual, their case manager case manager/care coordinator, & other people whom they choose.

Quality Assurance - It is important to make sure that individual waiver recipients are happy with the services they receive, & that the medical support helps move them towards the goals that are in their Comprehensive Service Plan. Iowa must also be sure that HCBS waiver funds are used appropriately & in a way that meets federal & state requirements. Individual waiver recipients may be asked about their services to help ensure that waiver services are helping recipients lead happy, full, and safe lives.

Flexible Supports - Individuals should receive services & supports that are effective in meeting their individual needs in the best way possible.

Person Centered Approach – Each individual waiver recipient, along with those who love & support them, are a valued partner in the service planning process & delivery of services. Support Teams are there to offer options & help make choices about services. It is the responsibility of the individual and/or their family or guardian(s) to let the Support Team know those needs.

Health & Safety - The State of Iowa requires providers to give high quality support. Waiver services & supports will help the individual stay healthy & safe while allowing for informed choice, trying new experiences, taking reasonable risks, & assuming new challenges & responsibilities in their life.

Waiver Specific Services & Supports

Intellectual Disability	Adult Day Care, Personal Emergency Response, Consumer Directed Attendant Care (CDAC), Prevocational, Day Habilitation, Respite, Home & Vehicle Modification, Supported Community Living, Supported Community Living- Residential Based, Home Health Aide, Interim Medical Monitoring & Treatment, Supported Employment, Nursing, Transportation
Brian Injury	Adult Day Care, Behavioral Programming, Consumer Directed Attendant Care, Family Counseling, Home & Vehicle Modification, Interim Medical Monitoring & Treatment, Personal Emergency Response, Prevocational Services, Respite, Specialized Medical Equipment, Supported Community Living, Supported Employment, Transportation
Children's Mental Health	Environmental Modifications & Adaptive Devices, Family & Community Support Services, In-Home Family Therapy, Respite
Health & Disability	Adult Day Care, Homemaker, Interim Medical Monitoring & Treatment, Consumer Directed Attendant Care (CDAC) Monitoring & Treatment, Counseling, Nursing, Home & Vehicle Modification, Nutritional Counseling, Personal Emergency Response, Home Delivered Meals, Home Health Aide, Respite
AIDS/HIV	Adult Day Care, Consumer Directed Attendant Care, Home Delivered Meals, Home Health Aide, Homemaker, Nursing, Respite
Physical Disability	Consumer Directed Attendant Care (CDAC), Home & Vehicle Modification, Personal Emergency Response, Specialized Medical Equipment, Transportation
Elderly	Adult Day Care, Assistive Devices, Consumer Directed Attendant Care (CDAC), Home & Vehicle Modification, Home Delivered Meals, Home Health Aide, Home Health Aide, Mental Health Outreach, Nursing, Nutritional Counseling, Personal Emergency Response, Respite, Senior Companion, Transportation

Habilitation Services provide Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) for Iowans with the functional impairments typically associated with chronic mental illnesses. Habilitation Services are designed to assist participants in acquiring, retaining & improving the self-help, socialization & adaptive skills necessary to reside successfully in home & community-based settings. Services available through the program include: case management, home-based habilitation, day habilitation, prevocational services, & supported employment.

The **Consumer Choices Option (CCO)** is available under the HCBS waivers. The Consumer Choices Option gives more choice, control & flexibility over services, as well as more responsibility. Individual waiver recipients, with the help of their Support Team & other professionals, will use these dollars to make a budget plan to meet their needs by hiring employees and/or purchasing other goods & services. If a waiver recipient chooses CCO, an Independent Support Broker will help make a budget & help recruit employees, & a Financial Management Service will manage the budget & pay workers on behalf of the individual. If Consumer Choices Option is right for you, your case manager/care coordinator can provide help with accessing this option. More information can also be found at the website: www.ime.state.ia.us/HCBS/HCBSConsumerOptions.html

If you predict your child or loved one will need & benefit from services funded by a waiver, please contact your local Iowa Department of Human Services office, visit Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) website: www.ime.state.ia.us, or call Iowa Medicaid Member Services at 1-800-338-8366 to apply right away! Some waiver programs may have a waiting list depending on the program, so it's important to begin the process & apply. A DHS worker can help you apply & understand waiting lists.
