

FACT SHEET

Home and Community-Based Service Waivers

What is a Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waiver?

Medicaid home and community-based services waivers allow people with disabilities and chronic conditions to receive care in their homes and communities instead of in long-term care facilities, hospitals or intermediate care facilities. These programs are called waiver programs because, under current law, eligible people with disabilities and chronic conditions are entitled to facility-based care, but home- and community-based care is considered optional. Therefore, states must apply for “waivers” from the federal government in order for Medicaid to provide home and community-based services. Waivers allow individuals with disabilities and chronic conditions to have more control of their lives and remain active participants in their community.

Medicaid provides funding for and is ultimately responsible for all of Ohio’s nine waivers. In state fiscal year 2012, waivers provided alternative access to long-term care to almost 80,000 Ohioans.

What is “Level of Care”?

A level of care is one component of Medicaid eligibility in order to approve enrollment on a Medicaid waiver or authorize Medicaid payment to a nursing facility.

A person who wants to be enrolled on a Medicaid waiver must meet the specific level of care that is required for that waiver. All individuals must meet and exceed the requirements of a Protective level of care, which includes a need for assistance with instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs) and/or supervision of one activity of daily living (ADL) or medication administration.

There are currently two levels of care associated with Medicaid waivers:

1. Intermediate Care Facility for persons with Mental Retardation (ICF-MR) level of care. This level of care includes a presence of a substantial developmental delay or a severe, chronic disability. A Medicaid waiver that requires an ICF-MR level of care provides services as an alternative to institutional care.

2. Nursing Facility-Based (NF-Based) level of care. A Medicaid waiver that requires a NF-Based level of care provides services as an alternative to nursing facilities, hospitals, or rehabilitation facilities. This level of care includes the Intermediate and Skilled levels of care:

- Intermediate level of care includes a need for assistance with ADLs, medication administration, and/or a need for at least one skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation service.
- Skilled level of care indicates a higher level of need than the Intermediate and ICF-MR levels of care and include presence of an unstable medical condition and a need for a specific amount of skilled nursing or skilled rehabilitation services.

Waiver rules in the Ohio Administrative Code
can be found online at:

<http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/5101:3-1-06>

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Waivers Administered by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

ODJFS determines the level of care for all waivers it administers.
 ODJFS contracts with a case management agency to provide case management services.

	Ohio Home Care Waiver (OHCW)	Transitions Carve Out Waiver (T2)
Who is eligible?	Eligible individuals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must meet specific financial criteria • Must have a nursing facility-based level of care • Are age 59 or younger 	Eligible individuals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must meet specific financial criteria • Must have a nursing facility-based level of care. • May be participants in the HOME Choice program • Are age 60 or older and must transfer from the OHCW
What services does this waiver provide?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult day health • Emergency response • Home care attendant • Home-delivered meals • Home modification • Out-of-home respite care • Personal care aide • Supplemental adaptive and assistive devices • Supplemental transportation • Waiver nursing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult day health • Emergency response • Home care attendant • Home-delivered meals • Home modification • Out-of-home respite care • Personal care aide • Supplemental adaptive and assistive devices • Supplemental transportation • Waiver nursing
How does one apply?	The JFS 02399 form is the application. The application is available at and can be submitted to any county department of job and family services [CDJFS].	<i>This waiver is closed to new enrollment, except for certain HOME Choice program participants.</i>

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Waivers Administered by the Ohio Department of Aging (ODA)

The area agencies on aging determine the level of care for ODA waivers. ODA administers this waiver under the direction of ODJFS.

The PASSPORT Administrative Agencies act as regional administrators and provide case management services.

	Assisted Living Waiver	Choices Waiver	PASSPORT
Who is eligible?	<p>Eligible individuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must meet specific financial criteria • Have a nursing facility-based level of care • Are age 21 or older 	<p>Eligible individuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be a current PASSPORT waiver beneficiary • Must meet specific financial criteria • Have a nursing facility-based level of care • Are age 60 or older • Must live in an approved service area • Must attend training and be willing and able to direct provider activities and negotiate rates within the cost cap 	<p>Eligible individuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must meet specific financial criteria • Have a nursing facility-based level of care • Are age 60 or older
What services does this waiver provide?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisted living services • Community transition (for nursing facility residents only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult day health • Alternative meals service • Environmental accessibility adaptations • Home care attendant • Home-delivered meals • Personal emergency response systems • Pest control • Specialized medical equipment and supplies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult day health • Chores • Community transition • Enhanced community living • Environmental accessibility adaptations • Home care attendant • Home-delivered meals • Homemaker services • Independent living assistance • Non-medical transportation • Nutritional consultation • Personal care services work • Personal emergency response systems • Pest control • Social work and counseling • Specialized medical equipment and supplies • Transportation
How does one apply?	<p>The JFS 02399 form is the application for the Assisted Living Waiver, Choices Waiver, and PASSPORT Waiver. The application is available at and can be submitted to any county department of job and family services [CDJFS], or regional PASSPORT Administration Agency.</p>		

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Waivers Administered by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD)

The county boards of developmental disabilities determine the level of care for DODD waivers. DODD administers this waiver program under the direction of ODJFS. Local county boards of developmental disabilities provide case management.

	Transitions Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver	Individual Options Waiver	Self-Empowered Life Funding (SELF) Waiver	Level One Waiver
Who is eligible?	<p>Eligible individuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must meet specific financial criteria • Have an ICF-MR level of care • Can be any age 	<p>Eligible individuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must meet specific financial criteria • Have an ICF-MR level of care • Can be any age 	<p>Eligible individuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must meet specific financial criteria • Have an ICF-MR level of care • Can be any age <p>This waiver is a participant-directed model of care.</p> <p>Waiver cost limitations: \$25,000/year for children (defined as under age 22) and \$40,000/year for adults and are sufficient to assure the individual's health and welfare.</p>	<p>Eligible individuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must meet specific financial criteria • Have an ICF-MR level of care • Can be any age
What services does this waiver provide?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult day health • Emergency response • Home-delivered meals • Home modification • Out-of-home respite • Personal care aide • Supplemental adaptive and assistive devices • Supplemental transportation • Waiver nursing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptive and assistive equipment • Adult day services • Adult family living • Adult foster care • Community respite • Environmental accessibility adaptations • Home-delivered meals • Homemaker and/or personal care • Interpreter • Nutrition • Non-medical transportation • Remote monitoring equipment • Remote monitoring • Residential respite • Social work • Supported employment: community and enclave • Transportation • Vocational habilitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical/therapeutic intervention • Community inclusion • Community respite • Functional behavioral assessment • Habilitation-adult day support • Habilitation-vocational habilitation • Integrated employment • Non-medical transportation • Participant-directed goods and services • Participant/family stability assistance • Support brokerage • Remote monitoring equipment • Remote monitoring • Residential respite • Supported employment enclave 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult day supports • Environmental accessibility and adaptations • Homemaker/personal care • Personal emergency response system • Respite – informal • Respite – institutional • Specialized medical equipment and supplies • Supported employment: community and enclave • Supported employment – adapted equipment • Transportation • Non-medical transportation • Vocational habilitation
How does one apply?	<p>Closed to new enrollment.</p> <p>Available only to individuals enrolled on the Ohio Home Care Waiver whose intermediate or skilled level of care is re-evaluated to be an ICF-MR level of care.</p>	<p>The JFS 02399 form is the application. The application is available at and can be submitted to any county department of job and family services [CDJFS] agency, or county board of developmental disabilities.</p>		