

Important Information for Parents

All of these programs have long interest lists (waiting lists); the wait time to receive any of these services varies from 8 to 10 years. You need to call immediately to place your child on these interest lists. Visit the Waiver Information Network (WIN) at www.selfdetermined.org or toll free at 1-800-572-7159. You can place your child on these lists even if you currently do not qualify for Medicaid, some of these programs will qualify your child individually without taking into consideration the parent's income.

***MEDICAID WAIVER PROGRAMS**

A Medicaid waiver allows the state to be more flexible in how it spends money to provide some long-term services to people with disabilities or elderly citizens who are eligible for Medicaid. In the past, people had to be in nursing homes or other large institutions for Medicaid to pay for long-term services. Waivers override certain rules for how that funding can be used. Now, if they meet the eligibility requirements, people can get the services they need in their own homes or other community settings. In Texas, there are several different waiver programs that offer a broad range of home and community-based services to people with disabilities and elderly citizens. There are different rules and funding amounts for each of the different waivers. In general, though, they all help people get the supports they need in the community. Sign up to be on the interest list (waiting list) for all of them and in the meantime find out which program best fits with your child's/family member's needs. You can only be in one program, but you can be on the interest list (waiting list) for all the programs.

CBA-Community Based Alternatives-Individuals, 21 or older must have a need for skilled nursing care; meet at least two nursing facility risk criteria; and be eligible for Medicaid. For more information call DADS (Department of Aging and Disability Services) (915) 775-4560 or 211.

CLASS-Community Living and Support Services-There is no age limit, individuals must have a related condition, and primary diagnosis cannot be mental retardation. For more information call 1-877-438-5658 or 211.

DBMD-Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities-Individuals, 18 or older, must be deaf-blind; have either mental retardation or a related condition, and be Medicaid eligible. The interest list for this waiver is short. For more information call 1-877-438-5658 or 211.

HCS-Home & Community based Services Programs-There is no age limit for enrollment. Individuals must have an IQ of 70 or below or a related condition and an IQ of 75 or below; and be Medicaid eligible. For more information call (915) 772-4446 or 211.

MDCP-Medically Dependent Children Program-Individuals must be under 21 years of age, Medicaid eligible, meet the medical criteria for admission to a Texas nursing facility, and meet disability criteria. For more information call (915) 775-4533 or 211.

TxHmL-Texas Home Living Program-No age requirement, the person must have mental retardation or a related condition, and meet the criteria for a high level of care in an intermediate care facility for persons with mental retardation. They must be a current Medicaid recipient, and do not require intensive one to one supervision to prevent dangerous behavior. For more information call (915) 772-4446 or 211.

CSHCN-Children with Special Health Care Needs-(This is not a Waiver program but helps children with special needs) Individuals must be under 21 years of age, no age limit for people with cystic fibrosis, must be living in Texas, must have a physical condition that will last 12 months and must meet income eligibility requirements. To enroll you must call 1-800-252-8023.