

Medicaid Waiver Funding

WHAT IT IS & HOW IT BENEFITS YOU

Texas Medicaid Waiver Programs offer support for individuals with disabilities, including adults diagnosed with Autism, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD), and Down syndrome. These waivers enable states to allocate Medicaid funds towards long-term home and community-based services (HCBS), facilitating the integration of individuals with disabilities into community living.

The range of services provided encompasses speech, occupational, and/or physical therapy, respite care, supported employment, nursing care, Day Habitation/ Individualized Support Services (ISS) hours, and other personalized services.

The term "waivers" is used because specific traditional Medicaid criteria, such as family income, are exempted, making almost all qualifying individuals eligible for waiver programs once their name reaches the top of the waiting list. Unfortunately, Texas has a waitlist exceeding 150,000 people with disabilities, emphasizing the urgency of adding your child/adult to the interest list as soon as possible. Being on the lists provides the option to decline services later, a recommended approach compared to needing immediate services but not being on the lists.

HOW TO APPLY

Texas has six waivers specific to people with disabilities, and each one has its own interest list, eligibility requirements, and services offered.

- To be added to the MDCP, CLASS, and DBMD interest lists, call 1(877)438-5658
- To be added to the HCS and TxHML interests lists, contact your Local Intellectual and Developmental Disability Authority (LIDDA). Find your local authority at <https://apps.hhs.texas.gov/contact/search.cfm> or see [right](#) for North Texas area agencies.
- To be added to the STAR+PLUS interest list, call (877) 782-6440.

It is advisable to contact each of the three phone numbers provided. When speaking with the person who answers, inform them that you have a child/adult with disabilities and express your intention to enroll them in "The Waiting Lists." You will need to provide some basic information and submit documentation confirming the diagnosis. Upon completion of the process, you will receive a letter confirming the date your child/adult's name was included in the lists.

LIDDA CONTACTS

- Dallas County
Metrocare Services
(214) 948-9950
- Collin County
LifePath Systems
(972) 381-5000
- Denton County
Denton County MHMR
(940) 381-5000
- Tarrant County
MHMR Tarrant County
(817) 335-3022
- Cooke, Grayson & Fannin Counties
Texoma Community Center
(903) 957-4700
- Kaufman, Rockwall, & Hunt Counties
Lakes Regional, Greenville, TX
(903) 872-2491 x4311
- Ellis & Navarro Counties
Lakes Regional, Corsicana, TX
(903) 872-2491 x1804
- Camp, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar,
Morris & Titus Counties
Lakes Regional, Sulphur Springs, TX
(903) 438-3270 x1726

Waiver Programs in Texas

1. **Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS)** provides home and community-based supports to children and adults with an intellectual disability (ID) or a related condition occurring before age 22.
2. **Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities (DBMD)** provides services for children and adults who are deaf-blind or have a related condition that leads to deaf-blindness, and who have another disability.
3. **Home and Community-based Services (HCS)** provides services and supports to children and adults with an intellectual disability (ID) or a related condition who live with their families, in their own home, or in small group homes with no more than 4 people.
4. **Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP)** provides services to children and adults who are 20 and younger who are medically fragile as an alternative to receiving services in a nursing facility. This program typically has a smaller waiting list than other programs.
5. **STAR+PLUS** provides services to adults over the age of 21 to keep them in their community and not in a nursing home facility.
6. **Texas Home Living (TxHmL)** provides services to children and adults with an intellectual disability (ID) or a related condition who live in their own home or their family's home.

Important Tip

It is very important to verify your child/adult's place on the list annually and make sure you update your address and phone number any time you move, especially if moving to another county in Texas.