An Introduction to Indiana’s Medicaid Waiver Program for Home and Community Based Services

February 2018 Update
An Introduction to Medicaid Waivers

What are Medicaid Waivers?

- Medicaid Waivers allow Medicaid to fund supports and services for children and adults with disabilities in their family homes or communities instead of institutions.
- Medicaid Waivers allow an individual to use traditional Medicaid services AND the additional services available under a waiver.

What Medicaid Waivers are available in Indiana?

**Developmental Disabilities Waivers**

Provide home and community based supports for individuals who have intellectual or other developmental disabilities, including autism.

1. Family Supports Waiver (FS Waiver)
   - Capped annual budget for services of $17,300.
   - Waiting list is maintained by the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services.

2. Community Integration and Habilitation Waiver (CIH Waiver)
   - The level of services available is based upon the individual’s level of need and living situation.
   - Consideration for the CIH Waiver is made on an individual basis in situations that include:
     - Loss or incapacitation of the primary caregiver with no other caregiver available
     - Living with primary caregiver age 80 or older with no younger caregiver available
     - Aging out of a residential placement for children through Department of Child Services or Indiana Department of Education
     - Extraordinary health and safety risk
     - Moving from an institutional setting, including a nursing facility or group home
     - Other emergency or crisis situations, including substantiated abuse, neglect or exploitation

**Skilled Nursing Care Waivers**

1. Aged and Disabled Waiver (A&D Waiver)
   - Provides home and community based supports as an alternative to care in a nursing facility for persons of all ages with a disability.

2. Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver (TBI Waiver)
   - Provides home and community based supports for individuals who have had a traumatic brain injury and who would require institutional care without these services.

   Waiting lists are maintained by the local Area Agency on Aging.

Where do you apply?

- Adults and children with intellectual or other developmental disabilities: Obtain the number for your local Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services (BDDS) office by calling 800-545-7763.
- Adults and children with medical needs requiring skilled nursing care/TBI: Obtain the number for your local Area Agency on Aging by calling 800-986-3505.
- If you need assistance in completing the application, contact The Arc at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100 and ask to speak to a Family Advocate.
How do you qualify?

- You must require the type of care that ordinarily would be provided in a Medicaid-funded facility, such as a nursing home, large residential facility or group home.
- If you are over 18, you must qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI). Individuals who qualify for SSI will automatically be found eligible for Medicaid. If you are under 18, a separate eligibility determination for Medicaid Waiver services will be made once you are targeted for the waiver.
- If you are over 18, working, and can maintain a job, you may be able to enroll in MEDWorks, which does not require a Social Security determination.
- Your family income and assets are NOT counted to determine eligibility for children under 18; however, assets or income in the child’s name ARE counted. For those older than 18, only the individual’s income and assets are counted.

How long will you have to wait for services?

- There are waiting lists for the Family Supports Waiver and TBI Waiver. The length of time that you may have to wait is due in part to the availability of state and federal funds. However, it is important to apply even if you do not immediately need services. Applying is an important part of the process in planning for the future of your loved one.
- Individuals between the ages of 18 and 24 who have completed high school can request priority status to receive the Family Supports Waiver.
- The state has created a Waiting List Web Portal to check your status on the Family Supports Waiver waiting list and keep your information updated.
- To access the Waiting List Web Portal visit: www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/4328.htm.
- You should periodically check the portal to verify that your information is correct. If your date of application is not provided on your record, or if you do not have access to the Internet, contact your local BDDS office by calling 800-545-7763.
- Always keep paperwork in a safe place, including a copy of your original application and application date. If you have questions or need assistance, contact The Arc of Indiana at 317-977-2375 or 800-382-9100 and ask to speak to a Family Advocate.
Family Supports & Community Integration and Habilitation Waiver

(ICF/DD Level of Care)

**Eligibility:** Must meet ICF/DD level of care. An ICF/DD is a facility specifically licensed to care for people with developmental disabilities. In Indiana, group homes for 6-8 people may be licensed as an ICF/DD. Large facilities for 15 or more people may also be licensed as an ICF/DD. The income and resources of an adult or child (under 18) receiving waiver services ARE considered in determining financial eligibility. Parental income and resources for children under 18 are NOT considered. Medicaid financial eligibility for individuals receiving waiver services is based on 300% of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) maximum. As of January, 2018 the SSI maximum income is $750 per month, making Medicaid Waiver financial eligibility $2,250 per month.

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<td>Behavior Management</td>
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<td>Participant Assistance and Care</td>
<td>Therapies, including Music and Recreation Therapy</td>
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<td>Community Habilitation</td>
<td>Adult Day Services</td>
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<td>Residential Habilitation (CIH)</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case Management</td>
<td>Family and Caregiver Training</td>
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Aged and Disabled & TBI Waiver

(Nursing Facility Level of Care)

**Eligibility:** Must meet nursing facility level of care. Children under 12 must have a skilled nursing need. The income and resources of an adult or child (under 18) receiving waiver services ARE considered in determining financial eligibility. Parental income and resources for children under 18 are NOT considered. Medicaid financial eligibility for individuals receiving the Aged and Disabled Waiver is based on 300% of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) maximum. As of January, 2018 the SSI maximum income is $750 per month, making Medicaid Waiver financial eligibility $2,250 per month. Individuals on the TBI Waiver can receive a maximum of 150% of SSI, or $1125 per month.

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State and Federal Agencies

Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA)
in.gov/fssa

Division of Disability & Rehabilitative Services (DDRS)
800-545-7763

Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services (BDDS)
800-545-7763

BDDS Statewide Waiver Ombudsman
matt.rodway@fssa.in.gov
800-622-4484

Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS)
800-545-7763

Division of Aging
888-673-0002

First Steps (Early Intervention 0-3)
firststeps.in.gov
800-441-STEP (800-441-7837)

Indiana State Department of Education
Early Childhood and Special Education
doe.in.gov
317-232-6610

Indiana Disability Rights
in.gov/idr
800-622-4845

Social Security Administration
socialsecurity.gov/disability
800-772-1213

What other supports are available to people with disabilities?

- Medicaid
- Health Insurance/Medical Supports/Children's Special Health Care Services
- Caregiver Support
- First Steps
- Early Childhood Education/Special Education
- Pre-Employment Transition Services
- Vocational Rehabilitation/Department of Workforce Development
- Centers for Independent Living
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- Medicaid funded group homes
- Natural Supports and Community Programs
Health Insurance/Medical Supports

The Arc’s Insurance Advocacy Resource Center (INARC) can provide information and guidance regarding health insurance. Contact us at 317-977-2375, 800-382-9100 or thearc@arcind.org

Advocacy Groups & Disability Organizations

The Arc of Indiana
arcind.org
800-382-9100

Self-Advocates of Indiana
saind.org
800-382-9100

About Special Kids
aboutspecialkids.org
800-964-4746

AKtion Clubs
aktionclub.org
locator.kiwanis.org/findaClub

Autism Society Indiana
autismsocietyofindiana.org
800-609-8449

Best Buddies
bestbuddies.org/indiana
317-436-8440

Down Syndrome Indiana
dsindiana.org
888-989-9255

Family Voices
fvindiana.org
317-944-8982

Governor’s Council for People with Disabilities
in.gov/gpcpd
317-232-7770

Independent Living Centers
in.gov/fssa/ddrs/4981.htm

IN*SOURCE
insource.org
800-332-4433

Special Olympics Indiana
soindiana.org
800-700-8585

United Cerebral Palsy Association of Greater Indiana
ucpind.org
317-871-4032

Healthy Indiana Plan
in.gov/fssa/hip
877-438-4479

Children’s Special Health Care Services (CSHCS)
in.gov/isdh/19613.htm
800-475-1355

CHOICE / State funded home and community based supports
in.gov/fssa/da/3508.htm
888-673-0002

WIC
in.gov/isdh/19691.htm
800-522-0874

Healthy Insurance Marketplace
HealthCare.Gov
800-318-2596

Medicaid
in.gov/fssa/2408.htm
800-457-8283

The Arc’s Insurance Advocacy Resource Center (INARC) can provide information and guidance regarding health insurance. Contact us at 317-977-2375, 800-382-9100 or thearc@arcind.org
In addition to applying for government funded services, including applying for Medicaid Waivers, it is also important to explore what is available in your community that may provide help and supports – what are often called “natural supports.”

**So what are natural supports?** Natural supports are the relationships that occur in everyday life. Natural supports usually involve family members, friends, co-workers, neighbors and acquaintances. Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities often need help in developing these connections, but once they do, these “natural systems of support” become an important part of their life in the community.

For example, being involved in a YMCA swimming program, community center arts class, or worship services may lead to friendships and connections that last far beyond the actual event. Overtime, these connections can help an individual build a strong community network and support system.

Some ways to build natural supports include:

- **Participate** in community activities and projects - Help out on a “Clean City Day” collecting recyclables. Join in “A Day of Caring” where groups help out in projects throughout the town or city.
- **Join** groups and clubs - Check out groups for people with disabilities such as Special Olympics and Best Buddies, as well as groups and clubs open to people of all abilities in your community. If you are in school, get involved in extracurricular clubs and youth groups like Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, sign up for summer camps.
- **Socialize** with family and neighbors.
- **Explore** work opportunities - Think about what you like to do. Visit work sites where people do things that interest you. Find out if you can work as an intern or volunteer to see if you like that kind of work.
- **Attend** church and faith based activities outside of traditional worship services.

How can you help others strengthen their natural supports?

- Listen carefully and help individuals discover and express their interests and talents.
- Learn more about activities individuals are already involved in and explore ways connections can be strengthened.
- Make a list of community resources that fit the individual’s interests.
- Help individuals explore their communities to find activities and resources that fit their interests.
- Encourage and help individuals attend social or community activities.
- Ask others for ideas and help.
Achieve with us.

The Arc of Indiana, established in 1956 by parents of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities, is committed to all people with I/DD realizing their goals of learning, living, working and fully participating in the community. We are affiliated with The Arc of the United States and are proud to work with our local chapters and organizational members.

Public Policy Advocacy
Through volunteers and staff, The Arc has a full-time presence at the Indiana State House, and as an affiliate of The Arc of the United States, in the halls of Congress.

The Arc Master Trust
Indiana’s premier special needs trust since 1988, The Arc Master Trust serves Hoosiers of all disabilities. thearctrust.org

The Arc Advocacy Network
The Arc Advocacy Network provides information, referral, and advocacy regarding:
- Government programs
- Employment
- Community Living Options
- Navigating Health Insurance
- Natural and Community Supports
- Guardianship and Alternatives
- Self Advocacy and Self-Advocates of Indiana

The Arc Advocacy Network is available for presentations and to exhibit at local events.

Erskine Green Training Institute
Erskine Green Training Institute is a postsecondary education program, housed at the Courtyard Muncie at Horizon Convention Center, that provides vocational training for employment in the hospitality, food service and health care fields. After receiving training, skills are applied through internships at the Courtyard Muncie, Thre3e Wise Men restaurant, and IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital. Erskine Green Training Institute is a program of The Arc of Indiana Foundation. The Courtyard Muncie is a project of Arc Innovations. erskinegreeninstitute.org

Membership
The Arc of Indiana is over 27,000 members strong. When you are a member of The Arc you belong to and support a respected local, state and national association committed to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. We welcome you to join The Arc.

We’re Here to Help

- Call: 800-382-9100 or 317-977-2375
- Email: thearc@arcind.org
- Visit: arcind.org
- The Arc of Indiana
  - @TheArcIN
- Listen to our podcast–arcind.org/podcasts