



DDS Waiver Fact Sheet

January 2022



What Is a Waiver?

The Department of Developmental Services currently operates three Home and Community Based (HCBS) Medicaid Waivers. A HCBS Waiver allows states to operate their own Medicaid funded program that meets the needs of people who prefer to receive necessary long-term care services and supports in their own home or community, rather than in an institutional setting. In many cases the supports offered through the waiver prevent an individual from placement in an institutional setting and allows the individual to maintain community-based living. A Medicaid Waiver provides additional supports and services to eligible participants beyond traditional Medicaid coverage. These Waivers also allow the state to receive partial reimbursement from the federal government for providing such community-based supports. This reimbursement helps the state to fund programs that might otherwise not be affordable. The reimbursement is received through the Medicaid program, and therefore, a person must be enrolled in Medicaid to participate. DDS HCBS Waivers can provide in-home, employment, day, community and family support services for people who live in their own, family home or other residential setting.

What Is Medicaid?

Medicaid, or Title 19, is a *state-federal partnership* which provides health care services to certain low-income populations, including children, adults with disabilities and individuals that are aging. States and the federal government *share the cost* of the Medicaid program. DDS services are considered health care services for disabled children and adults, and through our HCBS Waivers the federal government will share the costs.

In CT Medicaid is called HUSKY A, C or D.

Learn More: <http://www.huskyhealthct.org/members.html#>

Medicaid My Account Apply NOW [Connecticut Department of Social Services - ConneCT](#)

Why Should I Enroll In The Waiver?

- ◆ It is state law. Section 31 of Public Act 05-280 was passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor in July 2005. Information can be found in C.G.S 17a-218(g) regarding the requirement all individuals who receive substantive services from DDS to enroll in the DDS Medicaid Home and Community Based Services Waiver.
- ◆ Enrolling in a waiver and following the requirements of the waiver is how you will be able to obtain and maintain services and supports from DDS. Services, based upon need and available resources, may include but are not limited to employment, day and residential supports.

What Happens If I Do Not Or Cannot Enroll?

- ◆ DDS will work with you and your family to determine if you need to enroll in the waiver to obtain and maintain services from DDS. If you choose not to enroll in the waiver or do not follow the requirements to stay active on the waiver, DDS may not offer you services, or be able to maintain your current level of services. If a family believes that their loved one may be ineligible due to income/ assets, DDS Medicaid Operations Unit will review the particular financial circumstances and assist in a resolution.
- ◆ If it is determined that excess assets may affect waiver eligibility, DDS will help you to arrange to spend down those assets to become eligible, or you could privately pay for your services until you become waiver eligible. If DDS assists you, we will reserve funding for you so you can enroll in the waiver when you meet Medicaid eligibility requirements and continue with your services.
- ◆ If you do not cooperate with Medicaid requirements or complete and provide the necessary documents for Medicaid renewals, DDS can make the determination to start the termination-of-services process

What If I Am Found Ineligible or Denied Services?

If a person applies for the waiver and is found ineligible, does not agree with service limits, requests additional services but is denied or is told that services will be reduced, they will be notified in writing by DDS and may appeal the decision to the Department of Social Services.

- DSS Fair Hearing information can be found at [Office of Legal Counsel, Regulations and Administrative Hearings \(OLCRAH\)--Requesting A Hearing \(ct.gov\)](#)

- DSS Fair Hearing Forms can be found at [W-534.pdf \(ct.gov\)](#)

DDS Medicaid Operations Unit Contact Information

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES