CERADO HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES (HCBS) WAIVERS: ADULT WAIVERS

Health First Colorado (Colorado’s Medicaid Program) is a health care program for low income Coloradans. Applicants must meet eligibility criteria for one of the program categories in order to qualify for benefits. Major program categories include Aid to Families with Dependent Children/TANF, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Baby Care/Kids Care, Aid to the Needy Disabled, Aid to the Blind, and Old Age Pension. To apply for Health First Colorado, contact your local County Department of Social/Human Services.

Waiver programs provide additional first Health First Colorado benefits to specific populations who meet special eligibility criteria. This chart summarizes those benefits and criteria, and tells you how to apply for Health First Colorado under a waiver. For some people, a waiver is the only way to qualify for Health First Colorado.

Members must meet financial, medical, and program targeting criteria to access services under a waiver. The applicant’s income must be less than 300% of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) amount per month (see 42 C.F.R. 441.300 – 430 and for current information) and quarterly resources must be less than $2,000 for a single person or $3,000 for a couple. The applicant must also be at risk of placement in a nursing facility, hospital, or ICF/IID (Intermediate Care Facility for individuals with Intellectual Disabilities) To utilize waiver benefits, members must be willing to receive services in their homes or communities. A member who receives all waiver benefits is also eligible for all basic Health First Colorado covered services except for non-long-term hospital care and long-term care hospital services under a waiver, the services must be provided by certified Health First Colorado providers or by a Health First Colorado contracted managed care organization. The cost of waiver services cannot be more than the cost of placement in a nursing facility, hospital, or ICF/IID.

Applicants may apply for more than one waiver, but may only receive services through one waiver at a time. There may be a waiting list for some waiver. Anyone who is denied Health First Colorado eligibility for any reason has a right to appeal. Talk to your County Department of Social/Human Services if you wish to exercise your right to appeal.

NAME OF WAIVER | PERSONS with BRAIN INJURY WAIVER (HCBS-BI) | COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS WAIVER (HCBS-CMS) | PERSONS who are ELDERLY, BLIND, and DISABILITIES WAIVER (HCBS-EDB) | PERSONS with S/PINAL CORD INJURY WAIVER (HCBS-SCI) | SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICES WAIVER (HCBS-SLS) | PERSONS with DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES WAIVER (HCBS-DD)
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What is the primary purpose of this waiver? | To provide a home or community-based alternative to hospital or specialized nursing facility care for persons with brain injury | To provide a home or community-based alternative to nursing facility care for persons with major mental illness | To provide a home or community-based alternative to nursing facility care for elderly, blind, and disabled persons | To provide a home or community-based alternative to nursing care for persons with a spinal cord injury | To provide persons with developmental disabilities supported living services in the person’s home or community | To provide persons with developmental disabilities supported services and supports which allow them to continue to live in the community
Who is served? | Persons with brain injury as defined in the Colorado Code of Regulations with specific diagnostic codes | Persons with a diagnosis of major mental illness as defined in the Colorado Code of Regulations with specific DSM IV diagnostic codes | Elderly persons with a functional impairment as defined (age 65+) or blind or physically disabled persons (age 18-64) | Persons with a spinal cord injury as defined in the Colorado Code of Regulation with specific diagnostic codes | Persons who can either live independently with limited supports or who, if they need extensive supports, are already receiving that high level of support from other sources, such as family | Persons who are in need of services and supports 24 hours a day that will allow them to live safely and participate in the community.
Who determines the eligible person’s need? | Family or legal guardian | Member/Guardian | Member/Guardian | Member/Guardian | Member/Guardian | Member/Guardian
What waiver services are available? | • Adult Day Services • Behavioral Management • Buy-in for Working Adults with Disabilities • Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS) • Day Treatment • Home Delivered Meals • Home Modification • Independent Living Skills Training (ILST) • Medication Reminder • Mental Health Counseling • Non-Medical Transportation • Peer Mentorship • Personal Care • Personalized Emergency Response System (PERS) • Respite Care • Specialized Medical Equipment & Supplies • Substance Abuse Counseling • Supported Living Program • Transition Set Up • Transitional Living Program | • Adult Day Services • Alternative Care Facilities • Buy-in for Working Adults with Disabilities • Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS) • Home Delivered Meals • Home Modifications • Home Emergency Response System (PERS) • Respite Care • Transition Set Up | • Adult Day Services • Alternative Care Facilities • Buy-in for Working Adults with Disabilities • Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS) • Home Delivered Meals • Home Modifications • In-Home Support Services (IHSS) • Life Skills Training • Medication Reminder • Peer Mentorship • Personal Care • Personal Emergency Response System (PERS) • Respite Care • Specialized Medical Equipment & Supplies • Transition Set Up | • Adult Day Services • Buy-in for Working Adults with Disabilities • Complementary and Integrative Health Services (Acupuncture, Chiropractic, Massage) • Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS) • Home Delivered Meals • Home Modifications • Homemaker Services • In-Home Support Services (IHSS) • Life Skills Training • Medication Reminder • Peer Mentorship • Personal Care • Personalized Emergency Response System (PERS) • Respite Care • Specia | • Assistive Technology • Behavioral Services • Buy-in for Working Adults with Disabilities • Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS) • Dental Services • Health Maintenance Activities • Home Delivered Meals • Home Modifications • Non-Medical Transportation • Peer Mentorship • Personal Care • Personalized Emergency Response System (PERS) • Respite Care • Specialized Medical Equipment & Supplies • Supported Employment • Transition Set Up • Vision Services | • Behavioral Services • Day Habilitation (specialized residential day activity centers) • Dental Services • Home Delivered Meals • Non-Medical Transportation • Peer Mentorship • Residential Services • Supported Employment • Transition Set Up • Vision Services |