

# Colorado Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)

## Children's Waivers Comparison Chart

**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/Medicaid Only, Colorado Works/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.

**HCBS Waiver programs** provide additional 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.

**Financial requirements:** The applicant's income must be less than 300% or three times the Supplemental Security Income allowance per month (see [www.ssa.gov/OACT/COLA/SSI.html](http://www.ssa.gov/OACT/COLA/SSI.html) for current information) and countable resources less than \$2,000 for a single person or \$3,000 for a couple.

**Medical level of care requirements:** The applicant must 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.

**Applying for a waiver:** Applicants and their guardians apply through their local Case Management Agency, which is the entity that will also provide their case management services if they are accepted. Applicants may apply for more than one waiver through the same application process but may only receive services through one waiver at a time. There may be a waiting list for some waivers, however currently only the Persons with Developmental Disabilities (DD) waiver has a waitlist. The chart below can help members and their guardians make informed choices based on their needs.

**Service provision:** A member who receives services through a waiver is also eligible for all basic Health First Colorado covered services **except nursing facility and long-term hospital care**. The service plan is developed by the member, legal guardian, family, and case manager together; and the service providers are selected by the member and their family/guardian with the case manager's support in identifying providers. When a member chooses to receive services under a waiver, the services must be provided by certified Health First Colorado providers or by a Health First Colorado contracting managed care organization. The cost of waiver services cannot be more than the cost of placement in a nursing facility, hospital, or ICF/IID.

**Right to appeal:** 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.

**State administrator and contact information:**

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing

Waivers and Compliance Unit

303-866-3684

[hcbswaivers@state.co.us](mailto:hcbswaivers@state.co.us)

Name of Waiver	Children’s Extensive Support Waiver (HCBS-CES)	Children’s Home and Community Based Services Waiver (Children’s HCBS)	Children’s Habilitation Residential Program Waiver (HCBS-CHRP)	Children with Life-Limiting Illness Waiver (HCBS-CLLI)
What is the primary purpose of this waiver?	<p>To provide Health First Colorado benefits in the home or community for children with <b>developmental disabilities or delays that are most in need due to the severity of their disability</b></p> <p>Children must meet additional targeted criteria</p>	<p>To provide Health First Colorado benefits in the home or community for <b>children with significant medical needs and who are at risk for institutional care</b> in an acute hospital or skilled nursing facility</p>	<p>To provide Health First Colorado benefits in the home or community for children and youth who have an <b>intellectual or developmental disability and very high needs, which put them at risk for out-of-home placement</b></p> <p>Children must be at risk for institutionalization</p>	<p>To provide Health First Colorado benefits in the home for children with a <b>life-limiting illness</b></p> <p>To allow the family to seek curative treatment while the child is receiving palliative or hospice care</p>
What ages are served?	Birth through age 17	Birth through age 17	Birth through age 20	Birth through age 18
Who is served?	<p>Children with intensive behavioral or medical needs who are at risk of institutionalization</p> <p>Children, birth through age 4, must have a developmental delay</p> <p>Children, 5 through 17, must have a developmental disability</p>	Children in the home at risk of nursing facility or hospital placement	Children and youth, ages 0-20 years, who have an intellectual or developmental disability and intensive behavioral or medical support needs that put them at risk of out-of-home placement. The child or youth must meet the Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities definition	Children with a life-limiting illness who can be safely cared for in the home and who are at risk of institutionalization in a hospital

Name of Waiver	Children’s Extensive Support Waiver (HCBS-CES)	Children’s Home and Community Based Services Waiver (Children’s HCBS)	Children’s Habilitation Residential Program Waiver (HCBS-CHRP)	Children with Life-Limiting Illness Waiver (HCBS-CLLI)
What is the Level of Care Requirement?	Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities	Nursing facility or hospital level of care	Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities	Hospital level of care
What waiver services are available?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adapted Therapeutic Recreation and Fees</li> <li>• Assistive Technology</li> <li>• Community Connector</li> <li>• Home Accessibility Adaptations</li> <li>• Homemaker</li> <li>• Parent Education</li> <li>• Professional Services (includes Hippotherapy, Massage and Movement Therapy)</li> <li>• Respite</li> <li>• Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies</li> <li>• Vehicle Adaptations</li> <li>• Youth Day</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case Management</li> <li>• In-Home Support Services (IHSS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Health Maintenance Activities Only</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Connector Services</li> <li>• Habilitation Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cognitive Services*</li> <li>○ Communication Services*</li> <li>○ Emergency Assistance Training*</li> <li>○ Independent Living Training*</li> <li>○ Personal Care Services*</li> <li>○ Self-Advocacy Training*</li> <li>○ Supervision Services*</li> <li>○ Travel Services*</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Intensive Support Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wraparound Facilitator and Plan</li> <li>○ Prevention/Monitoring</li> <li>○ Child and Youth Mentorship</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Professional Services (Hippotherapy, Massage and Movement Therapy)</li> <li>• Respite</li> <li>• Transition Support Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wraparound Facilitator and Plan</li> <li>○ Prevention/Monitoring</li> <li>○ Child and Youth Mentorship</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counseling/Bereavement Services</li> <li>• Expressive Therapy</li> <li>• Massage Therapy</li> <li>• Palliative/Supportive Care</li> <li>• Respite</li> <li>• Therapeutic Life Limiting Illness Support</li> </ul>

Name of Waiver	Children’s Extensive Support Waiver (HCBS-CES)	Children’s Home and Community Based Services Waiver (Children’s HCBS)	Children’s Habilitation Residential Program Waiver (HCBS-CHRP)	Children with Life-Limiting Illness Waiver (HCBS-CLLI)
			* - Services are not billed separately but under the habilitation services and are part of residential services.	
What laws and regulations govern the program?	C.R.S. 27-10.5-401, as amended; C.R.S. 25.5-6-401-411, as amended; 42 C.F.R. 441.300-310  Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, 10.C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.503	C.R.S. 25.5-6-901, as amended; 42 C.F.R. 441.300 – 310;  Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, 10.C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.506	C.R.S. 25.5-5-306(1) (1995 Supp); C.R.S. 27-10.5-102(11) (1995 Supp)  Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, 10 CCR 2505-10 8.508,	C.R.S. 25.5-5-305 as amended;  Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, 10.C.C.R. 2505, Section 8.504
Waiver website	<a href="https://hcpf.colorado.gov/childrens-extensive-support-waiver-ces">hcpf.colorado.gov/childrens-extensive-support-waiver-ces</a>	<a href="https://hcpf.colorado.gov/childrens-home-and-community-based-services-waiver-chcbs">hcpf.colorado.gov/childrens-home-and-community-based-services-waiver-chcbs</a>	<a href="https://hcpf.colorado.gov/childrens-habilitation-residential-program-waiver-chrp">hcpf.colorado.gov/childrens-habilitation-residential-program-waiver-chrp</a>	<a href="https://hcpf.colorado.gov/children-life-limiting-illness-waiver-clli">hcpf.colorado.gov/children-life-limiting-illness-waiver-clli</a>