



**COLORADO**

Department of Health Care  
Policy & Financing

1570 Grant Street  
Denver, CO 80203

# HCBS-DD Waiver Waiting List and Enrollments

*Fact Sheet June 2021*

## HCBS-DD Waiver

A waiver is an extra set of Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) benefits that you could qualify for in certain cases. These benefits can help you remain in your home and community.

The [Home and Community-Based Services Waiver For Persons With Developmental Disabilities Waiver \(HCBS-DD\)](#) provides access to supervision 24-hours, seven-days-a-week through Residential Habilitation and Day Habilitation Services and Supports. Living arrangements can range from host home settings ([Individual Residential Services and Supports](#)) with 1-2 persons, individualized settings of 1-3 persons, and group settings of 4-8 persons ([Group Residential Services and Supports](#)), as well as residential supports for participants who live in their own home or who live with and/or are provided services by members of their family. The limitations on the number of individuals living in a setting are specific to individuals enrolled in Long Term Care services and do not apply to other family members living in the home. The HCBS-DD waiver provides the necessary support to meet the daily living needs of an individual who requires access to 24-hour support in a community-based residential setting. HCBS-DD waiver services are provided as an alternative to [Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities \(ICF/IID\)](#) services.

To enroll in the HCBS-DD waiver, you must meet financial and program criteria:

### *Level of Care*

- Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID)

### *Eligibility Group*

- You must be determined to have a developmental disability.
- You must be 18 years or older.
- You must require access to services and supports 24-hours a day.

### *Financial*

- Your income must be less than three times the current Federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) limit per month (See [SSI website](#) for current information).
- For a single person, countable resources must be less than \$2,000.
- For a couple, countable resources must be less than \$3,000.



## Waiting List

When the HCBS-DD Waiver reaches capacity for enrollment, an individual determined eligible for the waiver shall be eligible for placement on a waiting list.

- **How do I get placed on the waiting list?**
  - The Community Centered Board (CCB) will complete a [Developmental Disability Determination](#) for the Individual and open a waiting list record. You can locate your local CCB [here](#), under Case Management Agencies, to contact and start the process.
- **Do I need to have Social Security Income (SSI) and/or Medicaid to be placed on the waiting list?**
  - No, you do not need to have SSI or Medicaid to be placed on the waiting list; however, there are financial requirements that you must meet in order to enroll into the HCBS-DD waiver.
- **How is my place in line determined?**
  - The placement date used to establish a person's order on a waiting list shall be the date on which the person was initially determined to have a developmental disability by the Community Centered Board; or the fourteenth (14) birth date, if a child is determined to have a developmental disability by the Community Centered Board prior to the age of fourteen.
- **When should I get on the waiting list?**
  - You may request to be on the waiting list at any time after you have completed a developmental disability determination with your local CCB and are age 14 or older. If you are between the ages 14-18 you will only be allowed to be on the Safety Net list until you are eligible for the waiver at age 18.
- **Will this always be my place in line?**
  - Yes, regardless of how many times you decline an enrollment authorization or change your timeline (As Soon As Available, Safety Net, See Date) for needing services, your placement date on the waiting list will remain the same.
    - **As Soon As Available (ASAA)** - The individual has requested enrollment as soon as available.
    - **Date Specific** - The individual does not need services at this time but has requested enrollment at a specific future date. This category includes



individuals who are not yet eligible for adult programs due to not having reached their 18th birthday.

- **Safety Net (SN)** - The individual does not currently need or want adult services, but requests to be on the waiting list in case a need arises. This category includes individuals who are not yet eligible for adult programs due to not having reached their 18th birthday.
- **How long will I be on the waiting list before I receive an enrollment authorization offer?**
  - The length of time an individual spends on the waiting list will vary depending on their placement date on the waiting list.
  - The number of years an individual is considered to be waiting includes only the years the individual is 18 years of age or older
  - On average, individuals are on the waiting list for 8 years before receiving an enrollment authorization.
- **How old are individuals who are on the waiting list?**
  - 78% of individuals on the waiting list are between the ages of 20 and 39
- **How can my needs be met while I am waiting for enrollment into the HCBS-DD waiver?**
  - You may be eligible to enroll into one of 9 other waivers to access needed services and supports. You also may be eligible for the Family Support Services Program (FSSP) or State Supported Living Services (State-SLS) program. Contact your local [CCB](#) to find out additional information for eligibility and enrollment into these waivers/programs. You can also see [waiver charts](#) for more detailed waiver information.

## Enrollment Authorization

- **Which Individuals are authorized for enrollment into the HCBS-DD waiver from the waiting list?**
  - Individuals who have a timeline of “As Soon As Available” with the oldest placement date on the waiting list are authorized first.
- **How long do I have to accept or decline an enrollment authorization?**
  - A person shall accept or decline the offer of enrollment within thirty (30) calendar days from the date the enrollment was offered. Reasonable effort



- shall be made to contact the person, family, legal guardian, or other interested party. Upon a written request of the person, family, legal guardian, or other interested party an additional thirty (30) calendar days may be granted to accept or decline an enrollment offer.
- **If I decline an enrollment authorization, do I lose my place in the waiting list line?**
    - No, a person does not lose their placement date on the waiting list if they decline an enrollment authorization. The waiting list record will be updated to reflect a “Safety Net” timeline.
    - When a person is ready to accept an enrollment authorization as soon as it is offered, they can have the CCB change the timeline of the waiting list record to “As Soon As Available” and they will be back on the waiting list based on the previously established placement date.
  - **If I accept an enrollment authorization, do I have to leave my family home and reside in a [Group Residential Services and Supports \(GRSS\)](#) setting?**
    - No, a person does not have to reside in a GRSS setting to enroll into the HCBS-DD waiver. Individuals may choose to live in an [Individual Residential Services and Supports \(IRSS\)](#) setting as well. Both settings are part of the [Residential Habilitation Services and Supports](#) in the HCBS-DD waiver. These settings may include the family home, an independent apartment setting or other living arrangement.
  - **How often are waiting list enrollments authorized?**
    - Enrollments are authorized from the waiting list on a monthly basis and when the Colorado General Assembly issues a one-time appropriation for additional enrollment authorizations.
  - **How many enrollments are authorized from the waiting list at a time?**
    - Each month the Department authorizes approximately 10-20 enrollments from the waiting list based on previous months' churn, or vacancies in the waiver enrollment.
    - In July 2021 the Colorado General Assembly authorized an additional 667 enrollments for authorization. These enrollments will be authorized based on the procedure outlined in [OM-20-052](#) as an exception to the waiting list protocol. The Department will authorize enrollments to individuals based on their order of selection within a catchment area. That catchment area will be allocated enrollments based on the State Demographer’s calculation of the population in that area. For example, if 20 enrollments were made available and a singular CCB catchment area had 10% of the State’s population, that CCB



would receive 10% of the available spots (two spots) to authorize their top two waitlisted individuals.

Enrollments into the HCBS-DD waiver may be reserved to meet statewide priorities which include those authorized through the exception to the waiting list protocol. Exception enrollments are categorized as either Emergency, Youth Transitions or Deinstitutionalizations.

1. **Emergency** enrollments can be requested when the health, safety, and welfare of an individual or others is in danger due to homelessness, an abusive or neglectful situation, danger to others, danger to self or loss or incapacitation of a primary caregiver.
2. **Youth Transition** enrollments include youth transitioning from the [Children's Habilitation Residential Program Waiver \(CHRP\)](#), the [Children's Extensive Support Waiver \(CES\)](#) or Foster Care into adult waivers.
3. **Deinstitutionalization** enrollments are for those Individuals residing in an institutional setting (Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF), Mental Health Institutions, Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) and Regional Centers) who are wanting to receive services in the community.

If you meet any of the criteria listed above and would like to enroll into the HCBS-DD waiver, please contact your local CCB to request enrollment authorization. Persons who do not fit into these categories may be authorized to enroll into the HCBS-DD waiver from the **waiting list**.

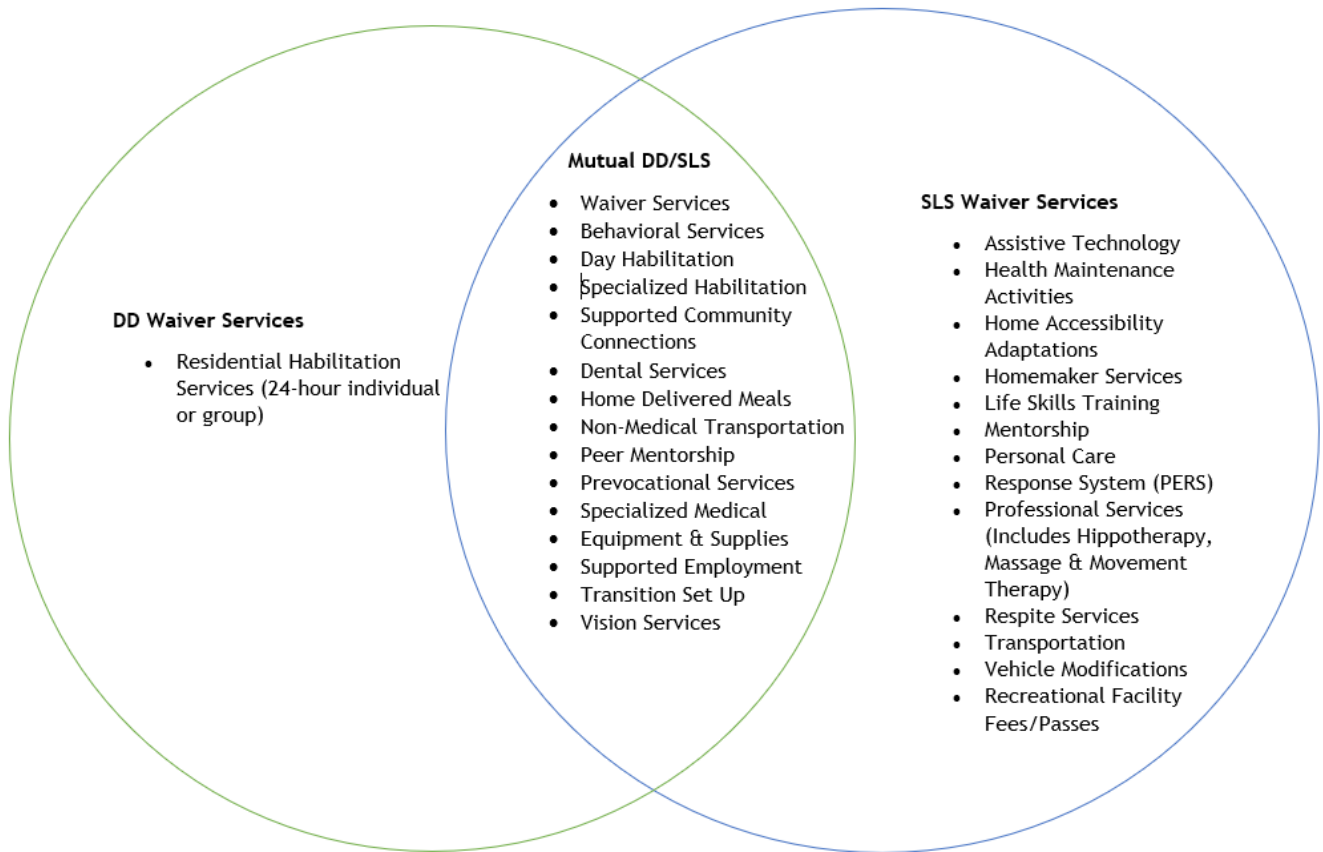
## Benefits and Services in the HCBS-DD waiver

If you enroll in the DD waiver, you may receive the following services to address needs:

- [Behavioral Services](#)
- [Day Habilitation Services](#) (Specialized Habilitation, Supported Community Connections)
- [Dental Services](#)
- [Home Delivered Meals](#)
- [Non-Medical Transportation](#)
- [Peer Mentorship](#)
- [Prevocational Services](#)
- [Residential Habilitation Services](#) (24-hour individual or group)
- [Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies](#)
- [Supported Employment](#)
- [Transition Set Up](#)
- [Vision Services](#)



# Benefits and Services in the HCBS-DD waiver v. HCBS-SLS waiver



## For more information contact

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or

General Questions

[HCPF\\_HCBS\\_Questions@state.co.us](mailto:HCPF_HCBS_Questions@state.co.us)

Additional regulatory information outlining the policy and procedures in this document can be located on the Colorado Secretary of State's website, [10 CCR 2505-10 8.500](#)

