



COLORADO
Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

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HCBS-SCI Waiver Statewide Expansion and Waiver Name Change FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions June 2022

Is the Home and Community-Based Services Spinal Cord Injury Waiver (HCBS-SCI Waiver) expanding statewide?

Yes. The HCBS-SCI Waiver will be available statewide with expanded eligibility and a new name effective July 1, 2022. By removing the county restrictions, eligible participants may enroll on this waiver anywhere in Colorado.

Is the name of the waiver changing?

Yes. The new name will be the Home and Community-Based Services Complementary and Integrative Health Waiver (HCBS-CIH Waiver).

The Department anticipates this name change transition to take many months to fully complete. Updates, FAQs, and a timeline for the name change in the Department's information technology (IT) systems will be available on the [Spinal Cord Injury Waiver webpage](#). The Spinal Cord Injury Waiver webpage will be updated and redirected to a Complementary and Integrative Waiver webpage July 1, 2022.

Are there new eligibility criteria?

Yes. The new qualifying medical conditions are spinal cord injury (traumatic and nontraumatic), multiple sclerosis, brain injury, spina bifida, muscular dystrophy, or cerebral palsy with the inability for independent ambulation resulting from one of these conditions. The qualifying medical condition must be documented on the Professional Medical Information Page (PMIP) as an International Classification Diagnosis (ICD) code following the broad diagnosis categories of the qualifying conditions.



Why are these changes happening?

In 2021, the Colorado General Assembly passed [Senate Bill SB21-038](#) removing the county restrictions of the HCBS-SCI waiver and expanding the qualifying medical conditions to include participants living with a spinal cord injury (traumatic and nontraumatic), multiple sclerosis, a brain injury, spina bifida, muscular dystrophy, or cerebral palsy, with the inability for independent ambulation directly resulting from one of these diagnoses.

The Department held several stakeholder meetings to guide in implementing this legislation. During these meetings, stakeholders requested the name be updated to reflect the expanded eligibility. The agendas and video links to these meetings are on the [Spinal Cord Injury Advisory Committee Waiver webpage](#).

What is the timeline we can expect for the statewide expansion, eligibility criteria update, and name changes?

The new criteria and statewide expansion will go into effect July 1, 2022.

The name change transition for case management agencies, counties and affected state departments can begin immediately. However, it will be many months before the name change transition will be complete across all systems. To avoid confusion, where possible the Department will include both new and former names of the waiver for at least a year during this transition. For example, the “CIH Waiver (formerly the SCI Waiver).”

The use of the term “the SCI waiver” will be retained in the Benefits Utilization System (BUS), the Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS), the Bridge, and eligibility verification/benefit plan information maintained in the Colorado interChange Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) until the new Care and Case Management system goes live.

Upon Go Live of the new Care and Case Management System, and the retirement of the BUS, all IT systems will reflect the new CIH waiver name. The Department will communicate with impacted stakeholders accordingly at that time.

What makes the HCBS-CIH Waiver different from the EBD waiver?

The HCBS-CIH waiver is like the EBD waiver but offers additional services such as acupuncture, chiropractic, and massage therapy to eligible participants.



These CIH services are intended to help HCBS-CIH members alleviate chronic nerve pain and improve muscle movement and control.

Are there any changes in the services and supports available?

No, there are no changes in the services and supports available on this waiver. The list of services that will be available statewide on this waiver include:

- [Adult Day Services](#)
- [Buy-In for Working Adults with Disabilities](#)
- Complementary and Integrative Health Services ([Acupuncture](#), [Chiropractic Care](#), [Massage Therapy](#))
- [Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services \(CDASS\)](#)
- [Home Delivered Meals](#)
- [Home Modification](#)
- [Homemaker Services](#)
- [In-Home Support Services \(IHSS\)](#)
- [Life Skills Training](#)
- [Medication Reminder](#)
- [Non-Medical Transportation](#)
- [Peer Mentorship](#)
- [Personal Care](#)
- [Personal Emergency Response Systems \(PERS\)](#)
- [Respite Care](#)
- [Transition Set Up](#)

How can I find a provider for CIH Services?

You can find a list of providers on the [HCBS-SCI Waiver webpage](#). This list will be updated as more providers enroll.

If a participant is within driving distance of a current provider, they may contact the provider of their choice and begin work with their case manager to get prior authorization requests (PARs) updated now. Services can begin on or after July 1, 2022. If a participant is not in driving distance of these providers and need these services, please let their case managers know. The Department is actively recruiting providers and would like to know where participants are interested but not able to find providers.



If a participant knows of an acupuncturist, chiropractor, or massage therapist in their area that they would like to work with and the provider has questions or would like to be a provider for the HCBS-CIH Waiver, please have providers to contact Kacey Wardle at Kacey.Wardle@state.co.us.

If you are a provider interested in enrolling to provide these services, please contact Kacey Wardle at Kacey.Wardle@state.co.us.

For more information contact

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hcpf.colorado.gov/spinal-cord-injury-waiver

hcpf.colorado.gov/spinal-cord-injury-advisory-committee

