

Participant Directed Service Delivery Options

What is Participant Direction?

Participant direction is a service delivery option that allows Medicaid clients to direct their long-term services and supports. There are currently TWO options: CDASS (Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services) and IHSS (In-Home Support Services). These are alternatives to services delivered exclusively by a home care agency.

Which Service Delivery Option is Right for Me?

Each participant-directed option has advantages. Consider what is most important to you and fits with the lifestyle you would like. The following chart is a guide to help in your consideration process.

Look at the topic of consideration (lifestyle, decision-making, time and effort, etc.) and circle which statement best describes how you feel in each row.

Topic of Consideration	CDASS	IHSS	Agency Care
Lifestyle	I have things to do and places to go.	In my life, my needs might change from day to day.	I am a creature of habit.
Decision-Making	I am a hands-on decision maker when it comes to how I live my life.	I like to make my own decisions, but appreciate some help along the way.	I like to know I can rely on trained professionals to help me make important decisions.
Time and Effort	With some training and assistance, I believe I could handle the tasks involved in recruiting, hiring, training, supervision, and paperwork. I also believe I can manage my annual allocation to budget for my service needs.	With some training and assistance, I believe I could be a good supervisor – but I don't want the extra work managing the allocation for my services.	I have enough going on in my life right now and don't want to manage any additional responsibilities.

Topic of Consideration	CDASS	IHSS	Agency Care
Flexibility	I expect the unexpected and deal with it well.	I try to plan for the unexpected but like to know there is someone I can fall back on if I need to.	I like the security of knowing there is someone who has a plan to step in if anything goes wrong.
Personal Control	I like to know I am in charge of everything that goes on in my life. If that means I have to work a little harder, that is okay with me.	I like to be in charge of those things that are really important to be but am glad to accept some help from other from time to time.	I want things to be the way I like them in my life but like to count on others to help me when that gets complicated.
Peace of Mind	Having control of a situation like in-home care can make a person feel safer than having someone else do it.	A person needs to be really involved in their own in-home care to feel secure but it can't hurt to have someone else checking in now and then.	I think people who are getting in-home care are safer when professionals are watching out and making sure it is being done right.

Now look at the columns. Are there more circled statements in one column than in others? If so, you might want to consider that care option.

Here is a chart that describes who is responsible for the following tasks under each option.

Task	CDASS	IHSS	Agency
Recruit potential attendants	You	You and Agency	Agency
Screen potential attendants	You	You and Agency	Agency
Interview potential attendants and make selection	You	You	Agency
Train attendant	You	You and Agency	Agency
Supervise attendant performance	You	You	Agency
Evaluate attendant performance	You	You and Agency	Agency
Provide substitute attendants	You	Agency	Agency
Perform administrative and personnel tasks	You	Agency	Agency
Determine salary and benefits	You	Agency	Agency
Conduct payroll functions	Agency	Agency	Agency
Monitor and manage quality of service	You	You and Agency	Agency

For specific and more detailed information on each program please visit the websites below:

CDASS Fact Sheet: www.colorado.gov/hcpf/consumer-directed-attendant-support-services

IHSS Fact Sheet: www.colorado.gov/hcpf/in-home-support-services

How do I get started?

Contact [your local Single Entry Point Agency \(SEP\)](#) and set up an appointment to discuss which option maybe a better fit.