

Colorado Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waivers: Children's 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/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.

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. 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 for current information) and countable resources 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 services through a waiver is also eligible for all basic Health First Colorado covered services except nursing facility and long-term hospital care. 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.

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 waivers. 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	Children's Extensive Support Waiver (HCBS-CES)	Children's Home and Community Based Services Waiver (CHCBS)	Children's Habilitation Residential Program Waiver (HCBS-CHRP)	Children with Life-Limiting Illness Waiver (HCBS-CLLI)
What is the primary purpose of this waiver?	To provide Health First Colorado benefits in the home or community for children with developmental disabilities or delays that are most in need due to the severity of their disability Children must meet additional targeted criteria	To provide Health First Colorado benefits in the home or community for children with significant medical needs and who are at risk for institutional care in an acute hospital or skilled nursing facility	To provide Health First Colorado benefits in the home or community for children and youth who have an intellectual or developmental disability and very high needs, which put them at risk for out-of-home-placement Children must be at risk for institutionalization	To provide Health First Colorado benefits in the home for children with a life-limiting illness To allow the family to seek curative treatment while the child is receiving palliative or hospice care
What ages are served?	Birth through age 17	Birth through age 17	Birth through age 20	Birth through age 18
Who is served?	Children with intensive behavioral or medical needs who are at risk of institutionalization Children, birth through age 4, must have a developmental delay Children, 5 through 17, must have a developmental disability	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
Is there a waiting list?	No	No	No	No
What is the enrollment cap on the program?	None	None	None	None
Where to apply?	Community Centered Boards (CCB)	Single Entry Point (SEP) Agencies, Community Centered Boards (CCB), and Private Case Management Agencies	Community Centered Boards (CCB)	Single Entry Point (SEP) Agencies
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
Who determines the eligible person's needs?	Member Family or legal guardian Case manager	Family Case Manager	Member Family or legal guardian Case manager	Family or legal guardian Case manager
What waiver services are available?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adapted Therapeutic Recreation and Fees Assistive Technology Community Connector Home Accessibility Adaptations Homemaker Services Parent Education Professional Services (includes Hippotherapy, Massage and Movement Therapy) Respite Care Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies Vehicle Adaptations Youth Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case Management In-Home Support Services (IHSS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health Maintenance Activities Only 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Connector Services Habilitation Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cognitive Services* Communication Services* Emergency Assistance Training* Independent Living Training* Personal Care Services* Self-Advocacy Training* Supervision Services* Travel Services* Intensive Support Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wraparound Facilitator and Plan Prevention/Monitoring Child and Youth Mentorship Professional Services (Hippotherapy, Massage and Movement Therapy) Respite Care Transition Support Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wraparound Facilitator and Plan Prevention/Monitoring Child and Youth Mentorship <p>* Services are not billed separately but under the habilitation services and are part of residential services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counseling/Bereavement Services Expressive Therapy Massage Therapy Palliative/Supportive Care Respite Care Therapeutic Life Limiting Illness Support
Who selects the service providers?	Member/Family	Member/Family	Member/Family or Legal Guardian	Member/Family
Who provides case management?	Community Centered Boards	Approved Case Management Agencies	Community Centered Boards	Single Entry Point (SEP) Agencies
What state/federal organizations administer this program?	Department of Health Care Policy and Financing; Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)	Department of Health Care Policy and Financing; Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)	Department of Health Care Policy and Financing; Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)	Department of Health Care Policy and Financing; Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
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	hcpf.colorado.gov/childrens-extensive-support-waiver-ces	hcpf.colorado.gov/childrens-home-and-community-based-services-waiver-chcbs	hcpf.colorado.gov/childrens-habilitation-residential-program-waiver-chrp	hcpf.colorado.gov/children-life-limiting-illness-waiver-clli
State contact	303-866-3684 HCPF_HCBS_QUESTIONS@state.co.us	303-866-3684 HCPF_HCBS_QUESTIONS@state.co.us	303-866-3684 HCPF_HCBS_QUESTIONS@state.co.us	303-866-3684 HCPF_HCBS_QUESTIONS@state.co.us