

Waiver programs fund home and community-based supports and services to help people with disabilities live at home or in the community, rather than in an institution. Minnesota waiver programs are a part of Medical Assistance (MA, or Medicaid in Minnesota). Waivers may help cover services not covered by other health insurance. You must qualify for a MA to qualify for a waiver.

Waiver Programs in Minnesota



How families impacted by FASD have used waivers

- FASD training /expenses for parent and caregivers
- Horse therapy
- Social skills classes
- Safes and other safety-related home improvements
- Home cleaning
- Summer overnight camp/day camp (respite)
- Parent pay
- FASD conferences or other mental health/parenting conferences
- Parent control software for phones
- FASD consultant/advocate to help at IEP meetings

What is parent pay?

Parents and caregivers can receive pay from waiver funds to provide the services a waiver can cover. For example, many caregivers of someone with an FASD receive parent pay to provide Personal Care Assistance (PCA) services to their child. Parent pay is available for any type of waiver. This is a popular option for families impacted by FASD, partly because so few providers understand FASD.

People with an FASD most often qualify for one of two types of waivers:



Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI) Waiver

For people with disabilities who need nursing facility level of care.

Eligibility Requirements

- Eligible for Medical Assistance (MA).
- Certified disabled by State Medical Review Team (SMRT) or by the Social Security Administration (SSA).
- Undergo a MnCHOICES assessment from your county human services agency. Find your county at <http://bit.ly/CountyDirectory>. (MnCHOICES looks at a person's current situation to decide which services and programs are a good fit.)
- Under the age of 65.
- In need of nursing facility level of care determined by case manager or service coordinator.
- Has a need for supports and services greater than what is available through the MA state plan.

Examples of CADI Waiver Coverage

- Respite care
 - Independent living skills (ILS)
 - Residential care services
 - Transitional services
 - 24-hour emergency assistance
 - Foster care
 - Case management
 - Specialized supplies and equipment
 - Transportation
- (More information at <http://bit.ly/CADIwaiver>)



Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver

For people with a developmental disability who need intermediate facility level of care.

Eligibility Requirements

- Eligible for Medical Assistance (MA)
- A documented diagnosis of a developmental disability diagnosed before age 22.
- Undergo a MnCHOICES assessment through your county human services agency. This assessment looks at a person's current situation to decide which services and programs are a good fit.
- Has needs for supports and services greater than what is available through the MA state plan.
- Made an informed choice to receive waiver services instead of receiving ICF/DD services.

Examples of DD Waiver Coverage

- Respite care
 - Residential care services
 - Transitional services
 - 24-hour emergency assistance
 - Case management
 - Extended personal care assistance
 - Caregiver living expenses
 - Transportation
- (More information at: <http://bit.ly/DDwaivers>)

How to Obtain a Waiver



Contact your local county human services agency or tribe. Ask to undergo a MnCHOICES assessment, which is designed to evaluate what long-term services and supports the person may need. The assessment determines whether a person is eligible for Personal Care Assistance (PCA) funding, a Consumer Support Grant (CSG), and Family Support Grant (FSG), Case Management for People with Developmental Disabilities, and several other programs relevant to families impacted by FASD. If you do not qualify for a waiver, you may still qualify for one of these other programs, such as or Personal Care Assistance (PCA) funding. Visit the Proof Alliance FASD Service Handbook (<http://bit.ly/FASDservicehandbook>), go to the Minnesota Department of Human Services website (<https://mn.gov/dhs>), or contact Proof Alliance at 651-917-2730 for more information.

Choose how to manage your waiver

A person with a waiver can manage their waiver in one of two ways:

1 Traditional Waiver

The person or their caregiver works with a case manager to pay for needed services with waiver funds. The case manager decides how much the waiver will pay and which services it will cover.



Consumer Directed Community Supports (CDCS)

The person or their caregiver manages the waiver budget. This option comes with slightly less funding but allows for more control and flexibility regarding the waiver budget. Read more at <http://bit.ly/waiverCDCS>.

Waiver Tips from Families Impacted by FASD

- Keep clear documentation of the disability. This will be needed when the SMRT or SSA is deciding whether you or your child has a qualifying disability.
- Organize your medical records. Keep an up-to-date summary sheet of all medical appointments. File records in chronological order.
- Join the Proof Alliance Virtual Family Center on Facebook or an FASD parent and caregiver support group to discuss waiver issues with others who have had experience with waivers.
- Stay on top of paperwork to avoid accidental loss of a waiver.
- Maintain eligibility for MA or MA for Employed Persons with Disabilities (MA-EPD), otherwise, the waiver will be lost. Changes, like an increase in income or assets, can cause someone to lose both MA eligibility and their waiver.