

Community Choices Waiver

What is the Community Choices Waiver Program?

The Community Choices Waiver Program provides services in the home and in the community to elders or adults with disabilities who qualify.

This program does not, by itself or in combination with other OAAS programs, provide supports 24 hours a day.

If I qualify, what services may I receive from this program?

- Support Coordination (also known as case management)
- Transition Intensive Support Coordination (provided to people moving out of nursing homes)
- Transition Services (provided to people moving out of nursing homes)
- Personal Assistance Services (supervision or assistance with basic self-care activities or tasks such as dressing, bathing, preparing meals and so forth. Though usually provided one-on-one, personal assistance may be provided by one worker for up to 3 waiver participants who live together and who use the same direct service provider.)
- Adult Day Health Care Service (health/medical and social services provided in a community-based center)
- Environmental Accessibility Adaptations (home modifications to aid in self-care)
- Assistive Devices and Medical Supplies
- Skilled Maintenance Therapy Services (Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapies)
- Nursing Services
- Home Delivered Meal Services
- Caregiver Temporary Support Services (respite care for family caregivers)
- Housing Stabilization Services
- Housing Transition/Crisis Intervention Services

Who can qualify for services?

People who:

- Meet Medicaid eligibility **AND**
- Are 21 years old or older **AND**
- Meet Nursing Facility Level of Care

What are the 2014 monthly income limits?

The income limits are \$2,163 for an individual and \$4,326 for a couple (when both spouses need long-term care). However, there is a “spend down” option which allows your eligibility to be considered even if your income is over the limit. Your income can be “spent down” for allowable medical expenses you may have. If you qualify for this option, you will be required to pay each month towards the cost of your care in the Waiver program. The amount you pay will be based on your income and other medical expenses.

What are the 2014 resource limits?

Resources are the things people own. When we count resources for this program, we do not count the person’s home, the car they drive to medical appointments, or other basic resources.

- Single people can have no more than \$2,000 in resources. Couples can have no more than \$3,000 in resources when both spouses receive long-term care.
- Married couples can have up to \$117,240.00 in resources, as long as one spouse at home **does not receive** long-term care services.

How can people request Community Choices Waiver Services?

The Department keeps a Community Choices Waiver Request for Services Registry (RFSR) (waiting list) of people who have asked for these services, along with the date of the request. Persons are offered the Community Choices Waiver according to the following priority groups:

- (1) People with abuse or neglect referred by Adult Protective Services (APS) or Elderly Protective Services (EPS) who, without Community Choices Waiver services, would need institutional placement to prevent further abuse and neglect.
- (2) People diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease.
- (3) People who are residing in a State of Louisiana Permanent Supportive Housing unit or who are linked for the State of Louisiana Permanent Supportive Housing selection process.
- (4) People residing in a Louisiana nursing facility if they have been approved for a stay of more than 90 days.
- (5) People who are not presently receiving home and community based services under another approved Medicaid Waiver program, including, but not limited to, the Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) Waiver, New Opportunities Waiver (NOW), Supports Waiver, or Residential Options Waiver.

Everyone else will get an offer for services on a first-come-first-serve basis by date of request.

Community Choices Waiver expedited opportunities may also be given to qualified Long Term Personal Care Services (LT-PCS) recipients.

To add your name to the Community Choices Waiver Request for Services Registry or if you have questions call Louisiana Options in Long Term Care at 1-877-456-1146 (TTY: 1-855-296-0226). You can call Monday thru Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

The call is free.