

Medicaid & Employment Services in Texas

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Goal

Provide meaningful information on Medicaid long-term services and encourage students and their families to seek needed supports.

- A. Define Employment Assistance and Supported Employment within the Medicaid services.
- B. Identify Texas' current Medicaid services, Medicaid waivers, and eligibility.
- C. Provide 3 steps to take to obtain Medicaid services.

Medicaid and Employment First

- ▶ Employment Assistance - assistance provided to the recipient to locate paid employment in the community. This includes learning about the person's work-related capacities, locating prospective employers and facilitating a job match.
- ▶ Supported Employment - intensive, ongoing support to sustain competitive, integrated employment or self-employment work in a typical work setting. This includes employment adaptations, supervision, and training related to the person's assessed needs.

Employment Service Training and Coordination

- ▶ Training on employment services in the Medicaid waivers.
- ▶ Medicaid services must be well coordinated with schools and Vocational Rehabilitation services.



CAUTION: The Supported Employment definition in HHS is different than the SE definition in Vocational Rehabilitation!

Medicaid

- ▶ Medicaid is health insurance.
- ▶ Provides Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS).



Medicaid Eligibility

Entitlement services based on eligibility.

- ▶ Financial status:
 - ▶ Child (under age 18) - based on parental income.
 - ▶ Adult - based on the income of the person.
- ▶ Person's disability.

Medicaid in Texas

Health and Human Services Commission.

- ▶ Medicaid State Plan - Entitlement
- ▶ State Plan Amendments - Not an Entitlement

Medicaid and Managed Care

- ▶ Traditional Medicaid
- ▶ Medicaid Managed Care Programs
 - ▶ STAR
 - ▶ STAR+PLUS
 - ▶ STAR Kids
- ▶ CHIP - Children's Health Insurance Program
- ▶ Medicaid Buy-in for children
- ▶ Medicaid Buy-in for working adults

Step #1: Explore options to obtain Medicaid health care coverage for the child or adult.

- ▶ apply by visiting the local HHSC office and/or apply online at [Your Texas Benefits](#).
- ▶ apply for CHIP, Medicaid, or Medicaid Buy-In.
- ▶ opportunity to use a waiver to obtain eligibility (name comes up on waiting list).



Community First Choice (CFC)

Services started 6-1-2015.

- ▶ Eligible for Medicaid.
- ▶ Need help with activities of daily living, such as dressing bathing and eating.
- ▶ Qualify for institutional level of care.

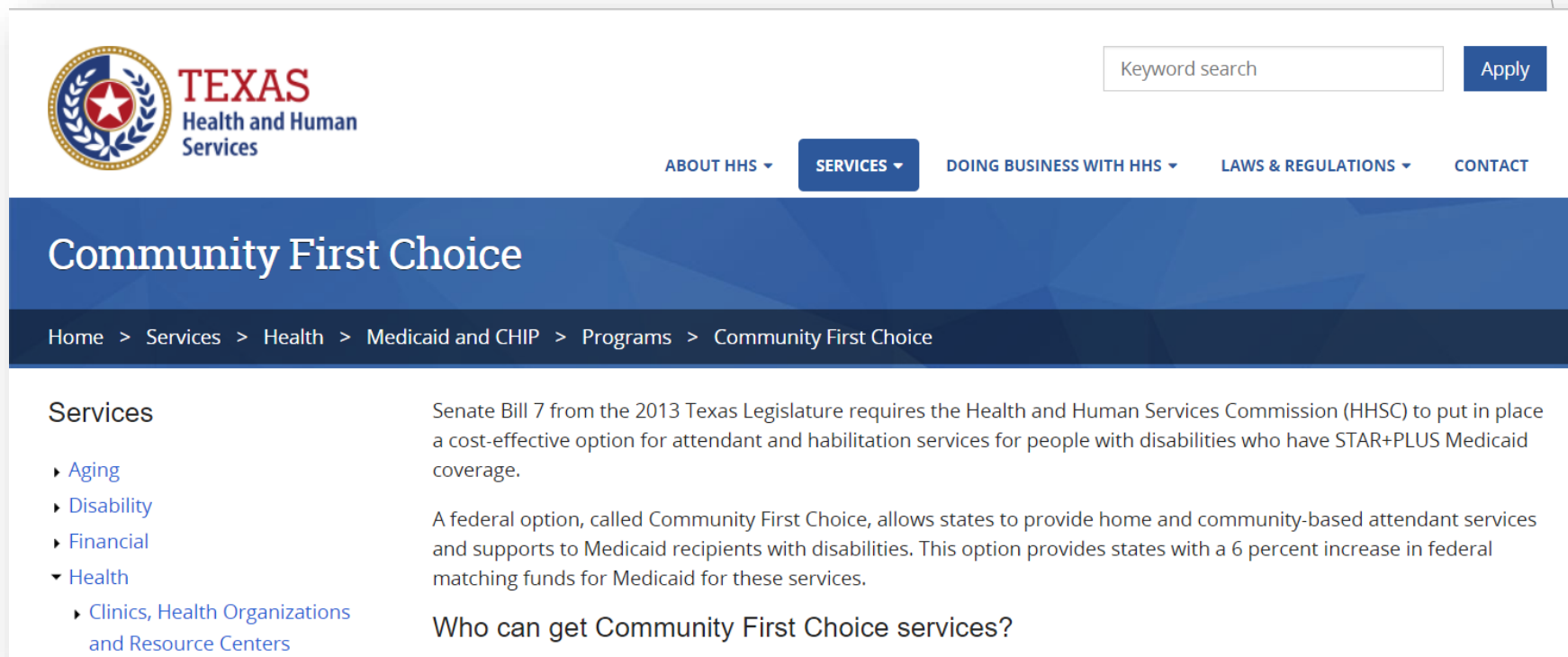
CFC is in the State Plan - means it is an entitlement for eligible individuals.

Community First Choice Services

- ▶ Personal Assistance Services (PAS) - activities of daily living and routine supports.
- ▶ Habilitation - assistance in learning and maintaining skills, decision-making, to learn how to care for themselves
- ▶ **Does Not Include: Employment Assistance, Supported Employment or Transportation**
- ▶ **HOWEVER**, many skills that assist can still be taught, practiced and supported.

Community First Choice and the 'Interest List'

- ▶ Individuals on a Medicaid waiver “interest list” who meet eligibility and coverage requirements may be able to receive Community First Choice (CFC) services.



The screenshot shows the Texas Health and Human Services website. At the top left is the Texas Health and Human Services logo, featuring a star in a circle. To the right is a search bar with the text "Keyword search" and an "Apply" button. Below the logo and search bar are navigation links: "ABOUT HHS", "SERVICES", "DOING BUSINESS WITH HHS", "LAWS & REGULATIONS", and "CONTACT". The "SERVICES" link is highlighted in a blue box. Below the navigation is a blue banner with the text "Community First Choice". Underneath the banner is a breadcrumb trail: "Home > Services > Health > Medicaid and CHIP > Programs > Community First Choice". The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is titled "Services" and contains a list of links: "Aging", "Disability", "Financial", "Health", and "Clinics, Health Organizations and Resource Centers". The right column contains text explaining that Senate Bill 7 from the 2013 Texas Legislature requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to put in place a cost-effective option for attendant and habilitation services for people with disabilities who have STAR+PLUS Medicaid coverage. It also states that a federal option, called Community First Choice, allows states to provide home and community-based attendant services and supports to Medicaid recipients with disabilities. This option provides states with a 6 percent increase in federal matching funds for Medicaid for these services. The text ends with the question "Who can get Community First Choice services?"

TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Keyword search

ABOUT HHS ▾ **SERVICES ▾** DOING BUSINESS WITH HHS ▾ LAWS & REGULATIONS ▾ CONTACT

Community First Choice

Home > Services > Health > Medicaid and CHIP > Programs > Community First Choice

Services

- ▶ [Aging](#)
- ▶ [Disability](#)
- ▶ [Financial](#)
- ▶ [Health](#)
- ▶ [Clinics, Health Organizations and Resource Centers](#)

Senate Bill 7 from the 2013 Texas Legislature requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to put in place a cost-effective option for attendant and habilitation services for people with disabilities who have STAR+PLUS Medicaid coverage.

A federal option, called Community First Choice, allows states to provide home and community-based attendant services and supports to Medicaid recipients with disabilities. This option provides states with a 6 percent increase in federal matching funds for Medicaid for these services.

Who can get Community First Choice services?

Step #2 - Apply for Community First Choice

- ▶ 1. Over the age of 21: Local Intellectual Developmental Disability Authority (LIDDA) or the Local Mental Health Authority (LMHA).
- ▶ 2. Younger than age 20: Managed Care Health Provider.

Confused by the rules?

Solution: Tell both!

What is a Medicaid waiver?

The state submits program proposals to the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services to *WAIVE* certain Medicaid program requirements, which include:

- ▶ care for people who otherwise might NOT be eligible, and
- ▶ services delivered in a different setting than the institution.

“Interest list” for Medicaid waivers.

Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) designed the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) to allow states to provide services

- ▶ in the natural home and community.
- ▶ to individuals with too much income or resources to qualify for Medicaid.

The Texas Medicaid Waivers

- ▶ 7 Medicaid waivers, each with different
 - ▶ eligibility criteria.
 - ▶ services that are offered.
 - ▶ agencies involved in eligibility and service delivery.
- ▶ All of the waivers are listed on the resource page provided for this training.
- ▶ Updated information on HHSC and [Navigate Life Texas](#).

Step #3 - Get your name on the Interest List for Medicaid waivers

To get a name on the Medicaid waiver interest list requires only the name of the person with the disability and adequate identifying information for future contacts. Eligibility and enrollment does not occur until the person's name comes up on the list.



Interest List Contacts

- ▶ Call 1-855-937-2372 for information about HHSC long-term services. A trained professional will guide you to the right option, including the waivers, if appropriate.
- ▶ Contact your Local Intellectual Developmental Disabilities Authority about the Home and Community Services and Texas Home Living waiver programs. Go to the [Local Authorities Directory](#).
- ▶ Call your Local Mental Health Authority about the Youth Empowerment Services (YES) waiver program. Go to the DSHS website to [find the Local Mental Health Authority in your area](#).

The Community Living Assistance and Support Services - CLASS

- ▶ Services to individuals of all ages with a “related condition” and have a substantial functional limitation in at least 3 areas of living.
- ▶ Individuals live in their own home or family home.
- ▶ Provides for a wide array of direct support services, therapies and case management.

The Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities - DBMD

- ▶ Services to individuals of all ages who are deaf/blind, or have a condition that will result in deaf/blindness, and who have an additional disability.
- ▶ Provides an array of direct services, therapies and case management.
- ▶ Individuals may live in their own home, their family home, or in a residence with one to five other individuals with similar needs.

The Home and Community-based Services - HCS

- ▶ Provides services to people of all ages with an intellectual disability or related condition.
- ▶ Provides a wide array of direct support services, day habilitation and therapies. Service Coordination is provided by the local intellectual and developmental disability authority (LIDDA).
- ▶ Individuals may live in their own home, their family home, or a small residential setting in the community.



The Texas Home Living - TxHmL

- ▶ Services to people with an intellectual disability (ID) or a related condition.
- ▶ TxHmL provides selected services and supports up to \$17,000 per year (a capped version of the HCS waiver).
- ▶ Services are provided by a TxHmL program provider, and service coordination is provided by the LIDDA.
- ▶ Persons live in their own home or their family's home.

Medically Dependent Children's Program - MDCP

- ▶ Provides a variety of services and supports for families caring for children (under age 21) who are medically dependent as an alternative to residing in a nursing facility.
- ▶ Services in MDCP are provided through managed care organizations through the STAR Kids and STAR Health programs.
- ▶ Services include flexible family support services, respite, home modifications and respite.

STAR+PLUS Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Program

Services for **adults** (age 21 and older) who meet eligibility for nursing facility level of care. There is a range of services including

- ▶ Covers an array of services including personal assistance, respite, emergency response, medical equipment and minor home modifications.
- ▶ Replaced the Community-Based Alternatives (CBA) waiver in 2014.



Youth Empowerment Services - YES

Provides intensive, community-based services to children and youth with serious mental, emotional and behavioral difficulties.

- ▶ Wraparound builds on family and community support and utilizes YES array of services to help build the family's natural support network and connection with your community.
- ▶ Average length of time on the YES waiver is 8 to 16 months.
- ▶ Delivered through the local mental or behavioral health authority.

Consumer Directed Services

A service delivery option that offers the individual recipient or a parent the option to be the Employer for direct support staff of selected services.

- ▶ Personal attendant support.
- ▶ Habilitation.
- ▶ Employment Assistance and Supported Employment.

Summary

- ▶ Employment Assistance and Supported Employment.
- ▶ Applying for Medicaid services in Texas.
- ▶ Community First Choice.
- ▶ Medicaid waivers.