

GEORGIA

Department of Community Health (DCH)
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Home and Community-Based 1915(c) Waivers for Respite Support

Medicaid is a program in every state that pays for medical assistance for certain individuals and families with low incomes and resources. It is the largest source of funding for medical and health-related services for America's poorest people. Because Medicaid is funded jointly by the federal and state governments, the services paid for vary from state to state. In addition to medical services, Medicaid will pay for home and community-based services (HCBS) through the state plan as well as through Medicaid waivers that offer services as a lower-cost alternative to treatment in a medical or long-term care facility, such as a nursing home. Respite is usually paid for through one or more of the following types of waivers: research and demonstration (1115), managed care (1915b) and HCBS (1915c) waiver programs. This state's Medicaid waivers that include respite are:

[GA Elderly and Disabled](#)

Provides adult day health, out-of-home respite, personal support services (including extended/consumer-directed support services), occupational/physical/speech therapy in adult day health care, alternative living services, emergency response, enhanced care management, financial management services, home delivered meals/services, structured family caregiving and skilled nursing services. To promote independence and freedom of choice, the participant-directed services model is available for individuals 65 years and older and for individuals with a physical disability who are less than 65 years old.

[Georgia New Options Waiver](#)

Provides community living support, prevocational, respite, support coordination, supported employment, specialized medical equipment, specialized medical supplies, community guide, FMS, adult dental, adult occupational therapy (OT), adult physical therapy (PT), adult speech/language therapy, behavioral supports consultation, behavioral support services, community access, environmental accessibility adaptation, individual directed goods and services, intensive support coordination, natural support training, skilled nursing services, transportation, and vehicle adaptation for individuals of any age with intellectual disabilities.

[GA Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program](#)

Provides community living support, prevocational services, respite, support coordination, supported employment, specialized medical equipment, specialized medical supplies, community guide, financial support services, adult dental, adult occupational therapy (OT), adult physical therapy (PT), adult speech and language therapy, behavioral supports consultation, behavioral support services, community access, community residential alternative, environmental accessibility adaptation, individual directed goods and services, intensive support coordination, natural support training, transportation, skilled nurses services (SNS), and vehicle adaptation for individuals of any age with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

[GA Independent Care Waiver Program](#)

Provides case management, adult day, alternative living service, behavioral support, counseling, enhanced case management, environmental modifications, FMS (financial management services), personal emergency response systems, personal support, respite care, skilled nursing, specialized medical equipment, and vehicle adaptation for individuals ages 21-64 with a physical disability.

GA Elderly & Disabled Waiver Program (0112.R07.00)

State Operating Agency: Georgia Department of Community Health, Division of Aging and Special Populations

Description	<p>This waiver assists individuals who are 65 and older or have disabilities and functional impairments to continue to live in the community. The goals are to delay or prevent institutional care through the provision of cost-effective, home and community-based services and facilitate the transition of individuals from institutions to the community.</p> <p>Services include adult day health, out-of-home respite, personal support services/personal support extended/consumer directed personal support services, occupational therapy (OT)/ physical therapy (PT)/speech therapy in adult day health care, alternative living services, emergency response, enhanced care management, financial management services, home delivered meals, home delivered services, structured family caregiving, and skilled nursing services. To promote independence and freedom of choice, participant-directed services are available to participants who choose to direct their own care.</p>
Waiver Type	1915(c)
Target Population-Eligibility	Individuals 65 and older and individuals with a physical disability who are less than 65 years
Level of Care	Individuals require level of care available in a nursing facility (NF).
Respite Services	<p>The waiver only covers Out-of-Home Respite, which provides temporary relief to the caregiver responsible for performing or managing the care of a person who is functionally impaired and cannot safely be left alone in the home. It enables the caregiver to meet planned or emergency needs of the family and is provided in an out-of-home setting approved by the state agency. Examples include Adult Day Health Care Center that also offers overnight care and Alternative Living Services (ALS) Group and/or Family Model facilities.</p> <p>Respite workers provide non-skilled tasks and services that are normally provided by the caregiver. Tasks such as preparing meals, reminding participants to take their medication, assisting with dressing, toileting, and bathing are activities associated with respite and are arranged by the care coordinator, the caregiver and the provider. All Respite Care services are supervised by a Registered Nurse and identified tasks are based on the participant’s plan of care.</p>
Respite Provider Eligibility	Information on providing services and enrollment: Toll free (800) 766-4456, Local (770) 325-9600 or http://aging.dhs.georgia.gov/documents/become-medicaid-provider or enroll at https://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal/PubAccess.Enrollment/tabId/63/Default.aspx
Caregiver Eligibility	Respite may not be provided by a relative, a legal guardian, or a legally responsible person.
Enrollment Limit	34,826: Year ending 11/08/2022
How to Apply	For information/assistance, eligibility screening, and referral to community services/resources, use the information below. Find contact information for your regional Area Agency on Aging at the link below.
Contact Information	Aging and Disability Network: Toll Free: (866) 552-4464 Use Georgia’s Aging and Disability Resource Connection at https://www.georgiaadrc.com/
Link to Waiver Application	Link at Medicaid.gov (go down to “Approved Application(s) and Related Documents”): https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/section-1115-demo/demonstration-and-waiver-list/?entry=8521
Expiration Date	11/08/2022
Date of Last Update	07/31/2019

Georgia New Options Waiver (NOW) (0175.R06.00)

State Operating Agency: Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

Description	<p>The NOW waiver seeks to enable individuals with less intense and urgent needs than out-of-home residential treatment or extensive waiver supports. The Program includes safeguards for participants whose intensity of needs change. Individuals eligible for NOW services live with family members or in their own home.</p> <p>Using a participant-centered assessment process, the waiver determines support needs as the foundation of the Individual Service Plan and individual budget. Services include community living support; prevocational; respite; support coordination (including intensive); supported employment; specialized medical equipment and supplies; community guide; financial management services; adult dental; occupational, physical, and speech/language therapy; behavioral supports, consultation, and services; community access; environmental accessibility adaptation; individual directed goods and services; natural support training; skilled nursing services (SNS); transportation, nutritional services and vehicle adaptation.</p> <p>Participants and their families may opt for participant-directed or traditional service delivery.</p>
Waiver Type	1915(c)
Target Population-Eligibility	Individuals with intellectual disabilities and developmental disabilities and /or related conditions with no age restrictions
Level of Care	Individuals require level of care available in an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID).
Respite Services	<p>Respite provides brief periods of support or relief for caregivers or participants. It is provided when the usual caretakers need additional support or relief, when the participant needs relief or a break from the caretaker, when a participant is experiencing severe behavioral challenges and needs structured, short term support, or when relief from caregiving is needed due to unavoidable circumstances.</p> <p>Respite may be provided in-home or out-of- and may include overnight.</p> <p>Maintenance Respite is planned or scheduled. It is provided: (1) when families or the usual caretakers need additional support or relief or (2) when the consumer needs relief or a break from the caretaker. Emergency Respite is a short-term service for a waiver participant who requires a period of structured support, or respite is necessitated by unavoidable circumstances, such as a family emergency.</p> <p>A participant may receive both Respite and Community Living Support services, but not simultaneously. No more than two to four members may receive respite in a Respite Facility. DCH must authorize respite prior to service delivery at least annually.</p>
Respite Provider Eligibility	<p>For information on how to become a service provider: https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/applications-new-existing-providers</p>
Caregiver Eligibility	Respite may be provided by a relative but not by a legal guardian or legally responsible person.
Enrollment Limit	4792: Year 1; 4850: Year 2; 4908: Year 3; 4967: Year 4; 5026: Year ending 11/08/2022
How to Apply	<p>This link contains 3 forms, including the application, and instructions about the process. Link to regional office contact information is below. Link: https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/applying-dd-services</p>
Contact Information	<p>1-800-GEORGIA, Call number for state services (1-800436-7442) or find/contact your regional office: https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/regional-field-offices</p>
Link to Waiver Application	<p>Link at Medicaid.gov (go down to “Approved Application(s) and Related Documents”: https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/section-1115-demo/demonstration-and-waiver-list/?entry=8529</p>
Expiration Date	11/08/2022
Date of Last Update	07/31/2019

Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (0323.R04.00)

State Operating Agency: Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Division of Developmental Disabilities

Description	<p>This waiver supports individuals with intellectual and related developmental disabilities (I/DD) that require comprehensive and intensive services. The purpose of these services is to enable individuals with urgent and intense needs to avoid institutional placement or to transition from institutional placement.</p> <p>The waiver program uses a participant-centered process to determine the support needs of participants and for the development of the Individual Service Plan and individual budget. Program participants may elect to direct some of their waiver services and for traditional service delivery of all of their waiver services.</p> <p>Services include community living support, prevocational services, respite, support coordination, supported employment, specialized medical equipment, specialized medical supplies, community guide, financial support services, adult dental, adult occupational therapy (OT), adult physical therapy (PT), adult speech and language therapy, behavioral supports consultation, behavioral support services, community access, community residential alternative, environmental accessibility adaptation, individual directed goods and services, intensive support coordination, natural support training, transportation, skilled nurses services (SNS), and vehicle adaptation.</p>
Waiver Type	1915(c)
Target Population-Eligibility	Individuals of any age with intellectual or developmental disabilities who do not qualify for the New Options Waiver (NOW) Program
Level of Care	Individuals require level of care available in an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID).
Respite Services	<p>Respite Services provide brief periods of support or relief for caregivers or individuals with disabilities when families or the usual caretakers are in need of additional support or relief, when the waiver participant needs relief or a break from the caretaker, when a participant is experiencing severe behavioral challenges and needs structured, short term support, or when relief from care giving is necessitated by unavoidable circumstances, such as a family emergency.</p> <p>Respite may be provided in-home (provider delivers service in waiver participant’s home) or out-of-home (waiver participant receives service outside of their home) and may include overnight.</p> <p>Maintenance Respite provides brief periods of support or relief for caregivers or individuals with disabilities. It is planned or scheduled respite and is provided: (1) when families or the usual caretakers are in need of additional support or relief; or (2) when the consumer needs relief or a break from the caretaker. Emergency Respite is intended to be a short-term service for a waiver participant who requires a period of structured support, or respite services are necessitated by unavoidable circumstances, such as a family emergency.</p> <p>A participant may receive both Respite and Community Living Support services, but not simultaneously. Anyone serving as a representative for a waiver participant in self-directed services is not eligible to be a participant-directed individual respite provider. DCH must authorize respite prior to service delivery at least annually in conjunction with the Individual Service Plan.</p>
Respite Provider Eligibility	<p>For information on how to become a service provider:</p> <p>https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/applications-new-existing-providers</p>
Caregiver Eligibility	Respite may be not provided by a relative, legal guardian or legally responsible persons.
Enrollment Limit	8456: Year 1; 8153: Year 2; 8251: Year 3; 8350: Year 4; 8450: Year ending in 03/31/2021
How to Apply	<p>This link contains 3 forms, including the application, and instructions about the process. Link to regional office contact information is below. Link: https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/applying-dd-services</p>

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Contact Information	1-800-GEORGIA, Call number for state services (1-800436-7442) or find/contact your regional office: https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/regional-field-offices
Link to Waiver Application	Link at Medicaid.gov (go down to “Approved Application(s) and Related Documents”): https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/section-1115-demo/demonstration-and-waiver-list/?entry=8532
Expiration Date	03/31/2021
Date of Last Update	07/31/2019

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GA Independent Care Waiver Program (4170.R05.00)

State Operating Agency: Department of Community Health (DCH)

Description	<p>This waiver offers services to individuals with significant physical disabilities and/or traumatic brain injury to live in their own homes or in the community instead of an institutional setting. The services offered are designed to supplement the care provided to individuals by their family and friends in the community. The waiver program offers both traditional model, agency delivered services and a consumer-directed model of service delivery with a focus on participant education around all possible services and service-delivery models.</p> <p>Supports and services included are case management, adult day, alternative living service, behavioral support, counseling, enhanced case management, environmental modifications, FMS (financial management services), personal emergency response systems, personal support, respite care, skilled nursing, specialized medical equipment, and vehicle adaptation.</p>
Waiver Type	1915(c)
Target Population-Eligibility	Individuals between the age of 21-64 years of age with a diagnosis of a physical disability and/or a Traumatic Brain Injury. Further requirements may be seen here: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/sites/medicaid.georgia.gov/files/related_files/document/17ICWP.pdf
Level of Care	Individuals require level of care available in a nursing facility (NF).
Respite Services	Respite Services are provided when there is a temporary absence or need for relief of people normally providing care. The services maybe provide in the Individual's home, place of residence or group home. Respite services are limited to 360 hours a year.
Respite Provider Eligibility	Information on becoming a provider of services: https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/applications-new-existing-providers
Caregiver Eligibility	Respite may be provided by a relative, but not by a legal guardian or legally responsible person.
Enrollment Limit	1619: Year 1; 1699: Year 2; 1779: Year 3; 1859: Year 4; 1939: Year ending 06/30/2021
How to Apply	Contact the Georgia Medical Care Foundation to begin application process. GMCF will ask potential members questions over the phone, have them apply and schedule an in-person assessment. Application information is available at: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/sites/medicaid.georgia.gov/files/related_files/document/17ICWP.pdf or visit: https://dch.georgia.gov/waivers
Contact Information	Georgia Medical Care Foundation (GMCF) at (888) 669-7195
Link to Waiver Application	http://dch.georgia.gov/sites/dch.georgia.gov/files/ICWP-4-1-16-Waiver-Renewal.pdf
Expiration Date	06/30/2021
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