

CHAPTER 8

Waivers & Services for transitioning youth



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Family to Family Health Information Center
a project of the PEAL Center

MA Transitions

0-3	3 years up to 18 years	18 to 21 yrs	21 & over
EI Dev. Delay	Child Soc Security Disability Standard	Adult Soc Security Disability Standard	
Loophole MA or SSI for child		SSI in own name	
"EPSDT" Services (includes nursing & wraparound) birth to 21			Adult MA Services only

Waivers- overview

- Waivers are special programs that fund home & community based support services for persons with various disabilities to enable them to remain in the community
- Waivers become primary source of support services when youths turn 21 and are no longer eligible for MA EPSDT services or school services
- Different waivers depending on type of disability- Intellectual disability, autism, physical, brain injury
- Ability to get on a Waiver is dependent on sufficient open "slots"- long waiting lists for MR waivers

Autism Waiver

- Autism Waiver for people 21 and over
 - Covers habilitation, respite, community inclusion & transition, behavioral & family counseling, employment services, AT +
 - 1-866-539-7689 to apply. Slots available
- Under 21 with autism spectrum disorders get non-educational services primarily through Behavioral Health wraparound (BHRS) & OT & speech through physical health coverage- including possible private insurance coverage under Act 62

Intellectual Disability (MR) Services

- Birth-3 Early Intervention- services thru MH/MR contractors. Eligibility based on developmental delay- Only MR program where MR diagnosis not required.
- Documentation of MR (<70 IQ + significant limits in adaptive functioning) before age 22 required for all other MR services.
- Except for EI, MR services not "Entitlements". Long waiting lists. Apply at county MH/MRs.
- FSS/FDSS- provides small amounts of funding for some supports like respite, camps, special equipment or therapies not covered by MA.

MR Waivers

- P/FDS- services capped at \$26,000 a year. No residential services.
- Consolidated- no cost cap. May include residential- group home or "life sharing".
- Both cover habilitation, respite, home & van mods, employment programs, transportation+
- Slots given out based on urgency of need- determined by PUNS. 3 categories.

See GOLDENROD "Prioritization of Urgency of Need..."

Physical disability waivers

- Independence- Age 18+ w/ physical limitations that meet nursing home level of care. Wide range of services
- Attendant care- Age 18+ w/ physical limitations that meet nursing home level of care but services limited to attendant care. Must be “mentally alert”
- Act 150- like Attendant Care Waiver but for people whose income or assets exceed waiver limits. Not a “waiver” (no federal funds)

Physical disability waivers- cont.

- CommCare- Age 21 & up w/ traumatic brain injury. Wide range of services
- OBRA- Age 18 & up w/ developmental disability (occurring before age 22) other than mental retardation. No new applications being taken.
- Michael Dallas- for children & adults who are vent dependent. Will be eliminated July 2010. Persons in this waiver will be transferred to Independence
