

“Just the Facts” – IFDDS (DD) Waiver

General Information and History

The Individual and Family Developmental Disability Waiver (IFDDS/DD) is a Home and community-based (HCBS) waiver providing support for community based alternatives to institutional care.

States make applications for Medicaid Waivers with the federal Medicaid agency, known as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). This enables states to waive the usual requirements that individuals must live in an institution in order to receive Medicaid funding for services. In this way, Medicaid funds certain community-based alternatives to institutional care.

The DD Waiver was established in 2000 to serve individuals with Developmental Disabilities not meeting the diagnostic criteria for the ID Waiver. Currently Virginia’s DD Waiver provides seventeen different services and serves over 950 individuals.

The state agency that administers the DD Waiver in Virginia and manages its day to day operations is the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS). Locally, DD Waiver services for individuals are coordinated by case managers employed by private entities. The actual services are delivered by a variety of licensed and unlicensed providers across the state.

The proportion of costs a state must pay for waivers (“match”) varies from state to state based on per capita income and other factors related to revenue capacity. In Virginia, Federal Financial Participation (FFP) is approximately 50%, meaning the state must contribute about 50% of the cost in order to draw federal dollars.

In order to receive DD Waiver services, an individual must meet eligibility requirements and a “slot” must be available. A slot is a term referring to an opening of Waiver services available to a single individual. Currently the number of slots is limited by the availability of funding for DD Waiver services. Funds are managed at the state level and the appropriation of additional funds to grow the Waiver is dependent upon General Assembly action.

Individual Eligibility

An individual is eligible for DD Waiver services based on three factors:

- **Diagnostic Eligibility:** The DD Waiver provides services to participants 6 years of age and older who have a diagnosis of Autism or a related condition, and do not have a diagnosis of Intellectual Disability (ID). Children who do not have a diagnosis of ID, and have received services through the ID Waiver, become ineligible for the ID Waiver when they reach the age of 6. At that time, they can be screened for eligibility for the DD Waiver; if found eligible, they may transfer to that waiver before

the age of 7 and receive a DD waiver slot subject to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approval. Individuals remain on the ID waiver until a smooth transition can take place.

- **Functional Eligibility:** All individuals receiving DD Waiver services must require the level of care provided in an intermediate-care facility for individuals with ID or other related conditions (ICF-IID). This is established by meeting the indicated dependency level in two or more of the categories on the "Level of Functioning Survey."
- **Financial Eligibility:** An eligibility worker from the local Department of Social Services determines an individual's financial eligibility for Medicaid. Some individuals who would not ordinarily qualify financially for Medicaid may be eligible by receipt of DD Waiver services.

Initial eligibility is determined by the local VA Department of Health - Child Development Clinic. Those found eligible are given a choice between institutional and waiver services. Those choosing waiver services are offered a choice of case management provider.

Waiver services shall not be provided to an individual who resides in a nursing facility and ICF/IID, a hospital, an adult family care home approved by the Department of Social Services (DSS), a group home licensed by DBHDS, or an assisted living facility licensed by the DSS. However, an individual may be screened for the DD waiver and placed on the waiting list while residing in one of these facilities.

DD Waiver Screening

Individuals are screened at the local VA Department of Health Child Development Clinics (CDC's). The individual must be at least 6 years of age and not have been diagnosed with ID. Contact must be made by the individual or family/caregiver with one of the 5 CDCs geographically designated to serve as the screening team for this waiver (see chart below with the CDC regions). The individual/family will contact the CDC that serves their locality to set up an appointment for a DD Waiver Screening. Personnel at the CDC will inform the individual/family what they will need to bring to the screening appointment, but at a minimum the following documentation is required:

- Signed consent to exchange information (provided by the CDC).
- Department of Medical Assistance (DMAS) form 305 Request for Screening for the Individual and Family Developmental Disabilities Support Waiver (DD Waiver) available from the DBHDS website (<http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/individuals-and-families/developmental-disabilities/waiver-services>) or the CDC.
- Psychological evaluation by a school or private psychologist.
- Relevant medical and social data in order for the screener to complete the Level of Functioning Assessment (LOF).

Once the screening has been completed, the CDC will forward the screening packet to the DBHDS DD Waiver Unit for final determination and approval.

Waiting List Information

A waiting list exists for the DD Waiver. Individuals are assigned waiting list numbers based on the date DBHDS receives all required documentation - the Screening Packet from the screening team and the Plan of Care (POC) from the case manager.

Emergency waiver slots become available when the General Assembly allocates new slots for the DD Waiver. Subject to available funding, individuals must meet at least one of the emergency criteria to be eligible for immediate access to waiver services without consideration to the length of time an individual has been waiting to access services. In the absence of waiver services, the individual would not be able to remain in his home.

The criteria are:

The primary caregiver has a serious illness, has been hospitalized, or has died; or

1. The individual has been determined by the Department of Social Services (DSS) to have been abused or neglected and is in need of immediate waiver services; or
2. The individual demonstrates behaviors which present risk to personal or public safety; or
3. The individual presents extreme physical, emotional or financial burden at home and the family or caregiver is unable to continue to provide care.
4. The individual lives in an institutional setting and has a viable discharge plan in place.

Slots and Slot Allocation

Each DD Waiver individual is assigned a slot. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) asks each state to determine a number of unduplicated individuals they expect to serve in order to determine the state's slot allocation.

How Slots Are Distributed and Assigned

Slot allocation is on a first come, first served basis. Slots are available for individuals transferring directly from institutions via the Money Follows the Person program, in addition to the allocated slots. These individuals do not follow the waiting list process described above.

DD Waiver Services

- **Assistive Technology**

Specialized medical equipment, supplies, devices, controls, and appliances, which are not available under regular Medicaid, and help individuals to improve their abilities to perform activities of daily living, or to perceive, control or communicate within the environment in which they live. This service also includes items necessary for life support, ancillary services and equipment necessary for the proper functioning of such items.

- **Companion Services**

Support and companionship provided to adults (age 18 and older) in their homes or at various locations in the community. Services can be provided by an agency or be consumer-directed. Consumer-Directed Services offer the individual/family the option of hiring workers directly, rather than using traditional agency staff.

- **Crisis Services**

Clinical services and other supports provided to avoid emergency psychiatric hospitalization, institutional admission or any removal from home, to strengthen the individual's current living situation, to help stabilize the situation quickly and maintain beyond the crisis period.

- **Day Support Services**

Center-based and community-based programs offered during the day and evening hours that provide different types of opportunities for learning new skills and completing activities of daily living, being active and involved in the community, enhancing social networks and building relationships. Supports to ensure an individual's health and safety are also provided.

- **Environmental Modifications**

Physical adaptations to an individual's home or vehicle, and in some instances, a workplace, when the modification exceeds the reasonable accommodation requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) expected by the employer. Environmental modifications provide direct medical or remedial benefit to the individual and not allowed to bring a substandard dwelling up to standard. They are typically permanently installed fixtures or modifications that change a site's structure.

- **Family/Caregiver Training**

Training and counseling services provided to families or caregivers of individuals receiving services in the DD Waiver

- **In-home Residential Support (does not include group homes)**

Support provided primarily in the individual's home, which includes training, assistance, and specialized supervision to enable the individual to maintain or improve his health; assisting in performing individual care tasks; training in activities of daily living; training and use of community resources; providing life skills training; and adapting behavior to community and home-like environments.

- **Personal Assistance**

Direct support in the home and community with personal assistance, activities of daily living, using the community, taking medication and care of other health needs. They can either be provided by an agency or by consumer-directed services. Consumer-Directed Services offer the individual/family the option of hiring workers directly, rather than using traditional agency staff.

- **Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)**

Electronic device enabling individuals to secure help in case of an emergency. PERS electronically monitors the individual's safety in the home and provides access to emergency crisis intervention for medical or environmental emergencies through the provision of two-way voice communication system. The system dials a 24-hour response center upon activation and via the home telephone line. PERS may also include medication-dispensing devices and accompanying nurse monitoring, when needed.

- **Prevocational Services**

Services aimed at preparing an individual for paid employment and provided to individuals who are not expected to join the regular work force without supports or participate in a transitional sheltered workshop program within a year.

- **Respite Services**

Services designed to provide temporary, substitute support which is normally provided by the family or other unpaid, primary caregiver. These short-term services may be provided because of the primary caregiver's absence in an emergency or a on-going need for relief. They may be provided by an agency or be consumer-directed. Consumer-Directed Services offer the individual/family the option of hiring workers directly, rather than using traditional agency staff.

- **Skilled Nursing Services**

Nursing services ordered by a physician for individuals with serious medical conditions and complex health care needs. Available only for individuals for whom these services cannot be accessed through another means. Skilled Nursing services may be provided in an individual's home, community setting or both. They may occur

alongside other Waiver services, as long as they are both needed and do not duplicate each other.

- **Supported Employment**

Employment and on-the-job training and support in jobs in which persons without disabilities are typically employed and alongside people without disabilities. There are two types of Supported Employment. Individual Supported Employment is support, provided one-on-one by a job coach to an individual in a regular job in the community. Group supported employment is continuous support provided by staff to eight or fewer individuals with disabilities in an enclave, work crew, entrepreneurial or "benchwork" model of employment, who work in the community and have regular contact with people without disabilities.

- **Therapeutic Consultation**

Training and technical assistance to family members, caregivers, and direct support professionals in providing certain supports to an individual at home or in the community. The specialty areas include: Psychology, Social Work, Behavior, Speech and Language Pathology, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Psychiatry, Psychiatric Clinical Nursing, Therapeutic Recreation and Rehabilitation Engineering.

- **Transition Services**

Direct purchase of goods and services for an individual moving into a private residence, such as a family member's home, or one's own apartment or home from a qualifying institutional setting.. Examples of allowable goods and services include security deposits, household furnishings, utility deposits, pest extermination, move-in cleaning service, moving expenses, proof of identity documents and delivery of appliances.

Accessing DD Waiver Services

In order to access services through the DD Waiver, the individual will be assigned a slot number. After moving to the top of the chronological list or being assigned a slot via the Emergency Slot allocation process, the individual will be contacted by the selected case manager who will help the individual/family develop an updated Plan of Care and decide which of the aforementioned DD Waiver services the individual needs. The case manager will forward the Plan of Care to the DD Waiver Unit and, upon approval; the individual can begin receiving the services approved in the Plan of Care.

CDC Locations & Geographic Regions Served

Region	Region and Contact Information	Localities Served
Northern	Alexandria Health District 4480 King Street Alexandria, VA 22302 Phone: (703) 746-4921	Serving the City of Alexandria
	Arlington Infant and Toddler Connection of Arlington 2100 Washington Blvd., 2 nd Floor Arlington, VA 22204 Phone: (703) 228-1640 Fax: (703) 228-1126	Serving the County of Arlington
	Fairfax Fairfax County Health Department 10777 Main Street Fairfax, VA 22030 Phone: (703) 246-8631 FAX: (703) 385-3681	Serving the County of Fairfax and; Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church
Northwest	James Madison University Shenandoah Valley CDC Institute for Innovation in Health and Human Services James Madison University MSC 9011 Harrisonburg, VA 22807 Office: (540) 568-6687 Office: (540) 568-3885	Augusta, Bath, Clarke, Fauquier, Frederick, Greene, Highland, Loudoun, Madison, Page, Rappahannock, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Shenandoah, and Warren, and: Cities of Buena Vista, Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Lexington, Staunton, Waynesboro, and Winchester.
Central	Virginia Commonwealth University Child Development Clinic 3600 West Broad Street, Suite 115 Richmond, Virginia 23230 Office: (804) 827-2100	Counties of Amelia, Brunswick, Caroline, Charles City, Chesterfield, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Essex, Fluvanna, Gloucester, Goochland, Greensville, Hanover, Henrico, James City, King and Queen, King George, King William, Lancaster, Louisa, Lunenburg, Mathews, Mecklenburg, Middlesex, New Kent, Northumberland, Nottoway, Orange, Powhatan, Prince Edward, Prince George, Prince William, Richmond, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Surry, Sussex, and Westmoreland, and Cities of Colonial Heights, Emporia, Fredericksburg, Hopewell, Manassas, Manassas Park, Petersburg, Richmond and Williamsburg.

Eastern	Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters 400 Gresham Dr., Norfolk, VA 23507 Phone (757) 668-5254 Fax (757) 668-7950	Counties of Accomack, Isle of Wight, Northampton, Southampton and York, and: Cities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Poquoson, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach
Southwest/ Gate City	Southwest Virginia Child Development Clinic 112 Beach Street, Suite 1 Gate City, VA 24251 Phone: (276) 386-3803	Counties of Bland, Buchanan, Dickenson, Grayson, Lee, Russell, Scott, Smyth, Tazewell, Washington, Wise, and Wythe and; Cities of Bristol and Norton
Southwest/ Roanoke	Carillion Clinic Children's Hospital 1030 S. Jefferson Street, SW Suite 201 Roanoke, VA 24013 Office: (540) 985-9021 Office: (540) 224-4520	Counties of Alleghany, Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Botetourt, Buckingham, Campbell, Carroll, Charlotte, Craig, Floyd, Franklin, Giles, Halifax, Henry, Montgomery, Nelson, Patrick, Pittsylvania, Pulaski, Roanoke and Wythe; and; Cities of Bedford, Covington, Danville, Galax, Lynchburg, Martinsville, Radford, Roanoke, Salem and South Boston.

Web link Resources:

www.dbhds.virginia.gov

www.viriniamedicaid.dmas.virginia.gov