

# Medicaid Waiver Services Tip Sheet

<p><b>What is a Waiver?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is in addition to Medicaid, a Medicaid Waiver is a long-term support system for someone who has long-term care needs and or could live in an institution, like an individual with an intellectual and/or developmental disability.</li> <li>• Once a Waiver is assigned, there are several services available. Frequently used services include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Assistants who work 1 to 1 with the person,</li> <li>– Respite care so parents can have a break,</li> <li>– Group home supports by direct support professionals (DSPs) where a person with a developmental disability lives in a home shared by other people with disabilities,</li> <li>– Long term employment,</li> <li>– Meaningful day services,</li> <li>– Assistive technology,</li> <li>– Environmental modifications,</li> <li>– Nursing, and more.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• These services are offered at no or very low cost.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Waiver Options</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Community Living Waiver (CL)</b> – is for youth and adults who have extremely high medical, behavioral, or support needs. It provides 24/7 active services, delivered by direct support professionals (DSPs).</li> <li>• <b>Family and Individual Supports Waiver (FIS)</b> – is for children and adults who need supports from between a few hours to most hours of the day, including overnight monitoring in some cases.</li> <li>• <b>Building Independence Waiver (BI)</b> – is for those 18 years and older who can live and work with a fair amount of independence, but need drop in supports.</li> <li>• <b>Commonwealth Community Care Waiver (CCC+)</b> – is for people who have a developmental disability or are over the age of 65 and have significant medical needs; primarily attendant and respite care, and some nursing.</li> </ul>

## Resources

- Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) who utilize the Medicaid Waiver services are assessed every three years with a test called the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) to measure the intensity of their needs. <https://dbhds.virginia.gov/developmental-services/waiver-services>
- Individuals with I/DD who have more needs receive a higher reimbursement rate for some of their services. <https://dbhds.virginia.gov/library/developmental%20services/mlmc%20support%20levels%20and%20tiers%20adults%206-30-16.pdf>
- Waiver information. <https://dbhds.virginia.gov/developmental-services/my-life-my-community-waiver>
- My Life, My Community. <https://www.mylifemycommunityvirginia.org/>
- Waiver Options. <https://dbhds.virginia.gov/library/developmental%20services/mlmc%20services%20and%20support%20options%202016%20final%2006%2030%2016.pdf>