

# CHOICE

## Community and Home Options to Institutional Care for the Elderly and Disabled

### CHOICE

CHOICE is a state-funded program administered by the Division of Aging that provides eligible individuals support services in their homes and communities. CHOICE clients work with a case manager to develop a plan of care that contains the services needed to keep the individual out of a nursing facility. Children who have disabilities may be eligible for CHOICE.

### Services Provided

Services available include Case Management, Adult Day Services, Attendant Care, Home Health Aide, Homemaker, Environmental Modifications, Vehicle Modifications, Personal Emergency Response System, Respite, Skilled Nursing, Specialized Medical Equipment, Transportation, and more.

Please note that CHOICE does not provide comprehensive healthcare coverage or automatic enrollment in Medicaid or other programs.

### Financial Eligibility

The CHOICE program does not exclude recipients based upon income limits; however, there is a cost-share provision. Individuals who are at or above a specific income are required to pay for a portion of the services received.

Individuals may not have assets that exceed \$250,000. In determining assets, an additional \$20,000 in countable assets will be excluded from the total. Certain medical expenses may not be counted in the income or asset calculations.

### Disability Eligibility

Eligibility for the CHOICE program requires that an individual be at least 60 years of age or have a disability. Individuals must also be found to be at risk of losing their independence. This is measured by impairments impacting activities of daily living (ADL's). ADL's may include eating, transferring, changing clothes, bathing, managing bowel and bladder functioning, walking, medications set-ups, among others.

### Availability

The CHOICE program is available in each of Indiana's 92 counties. Administration is done regionally by the local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and waiting lists will vary throughout the state.

### Apply

You can apply by calling the local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for an application. See the state map: [https://www.in.gov/fssa/da/files/AAA\\_Map.pdf](https://www.in.gov/fssa/da/files/AAA_Map.pdf) or call **1-800-986-3505** to identify your local office.

Individuals who are eligible for CHOICE are urged to consider if they may be eligible for other programs, including Medicaid Waivers, Hoosier Healthwise, and the Children's Special Health Care Services program. CHOICE funds may not be used if other funding such as Medicare or Medicaid is available to meet the individual's needs.

### Apply for CHOICE

☐ At your Local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Office. To find your local office call

**1-800-986-3505**

Programs and systems change often. It is important to ensure that you are using the most current information. This fact sheet was updated May 2022. Please check <https://www.inf2f.org/fact-sheets.html> for the most recent edition.

Supported in part by funding from the Indiana State Dept. of Health and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).