

Medicaid Waivers: Indiana's Health and Wellness (H&W) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Waivers

Apply for a Waiver

At your Local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Office. To find your local office, call **1-800-713-9023**

What are Medicaid Waivers?

Waivers are a part of the federally and state funded Medicaid program that provides for reasonable and necessary medical care for persons meeting eligibility requirements. Waivers provide funding for children and adults with disabilities to receive support and services in the home and community rather than in an institutional setting. Indiana has two different types of home and community-based waiver programs, medical and developmental. The type of waiver for children and adults whose needs are primarily medical in nature is called the Nursing Facility Level of Care (NFLOC) or Medical Model Waiver. There are two Indiana Medicaid Waivers that use NFLOC as part of eligibility – the Health and Wellness Waiver (H&W) (formerly the Aged & Disabled or A&D Waiver) and the Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver (TBI).

How is Eligibility Determined?

To be eligible for the H&W or TBI Waiver an individual must meet NFLOC, meaning the person has a skilled need and/or the individual is experiencing a medical condition that is causing the need for assistance with their activities of daily living (ADL). The level of care need is determined by the Area Agency on Aging using an assessment that determines if the person meets NFLOC based upon their skilled needs and medical condition(s) that impact their ADLs. To be eligible for the TBI Waiver, a person must also have a diagnosis of traumatic brain injury. If an individual does not meet NFLOC criteria, then they can be evaluated by BDS to see if they meet ICF/ID LOC criteria, meaning they meet the level of care for admission to an Intermediate Care Facility for those with and intellectual disability. If ICF/ID LOC is met, then the individual will meet criteria for the TBI Waiver. Age is not an eligibility determinant for either of these waivers. Family income and assets are NOT considered when determining Medicaid eligibility for a child under the age of eighteen who is also applying for a waiver.

How do I Apply for a Waiver?

If you think your family member may be eligible for a Nursing Facility Level of Care Waiver, you can apply by calling the local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for an application. See the state map at the link on page 2 of this fact sheet or call 1-800-713-9023 to identify your local office. Applicants will be assigned a case manager who will assist you in completing an Application for Long-Term Care Services. You may apply for one or both of the waivers, as appropriate. If there are no slots available on the waiver, the applicant will be placed on a waiting list.

How Long is the Waiting List?

There is currently a waiting list for the H&W Waiver. Waiting lists change often. For up to date information about H&W waitlist information, visit <https://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/information-for-individuals-and-families/hcbs-waiver-waiting-list-information/>.

What do I Need to do to Stay on the Waiting List?

You will need to update your local AAA whenever your contact information, including phone or address, changes. If you move to a different area of the state, contact your

Apply for a Waiver

At your Local Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Office. To find your local office, call **1-800-713-9023**

local AAA to update your contact information. As long as you remain in Indiana you will not have to reapply. It is advisable to contact the AAA office once a year to update and confirm your contact information. Keep a copy of your dated waiver application and any other correspondence with your AAA office for your own records.

What other Community-Based Services are Available?

Indiana's Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) provide case management, information, and referrals to various services for persons who are elderly or physically disabled. There are other programs and services for which you might be eligible. Additionally, you may be eligible for more than one type of waiver. You can apply for all waivers for which you may be eligible. Keep in mind, while you may be eligible for more than one type of waiver, only one waiver can be utilized at a time. To learn about the other types of home and community-based waivers in Indiana, please refer to our fact sheet on Indiana's Family Supports Waiver & Community Integration Habilitation Waivers.

Where to get more Information:

The local AAA office is the point of entry for Nursing Facility Level of Care waivers and can answer questions about those waivers. To find the AAA nearest you, visit: <https://www.in.gov/fssa/da/area-agencies-on-aging/> (map available at https://www.in.gov/fssa/da/files/AAA_Map.pdf) or call toll free 1-800-713-9023.

The Division of Disability & Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) is a part of the Family & Social Services Administration. DDRS administers the Nursing Facility Level of Care Waivers and other community-based services for people who are elderly and/or have disabilities. DDRS Website: <https://www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/>

Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) has a webpage with additional FAQs, checklists, and webinars: <https://www.in.gov/medicaid-strategies/>

Note: Upon receipt of the waiver, a service plan aligning with the participant's needs and level of care will be developed by the care manager and participant. The participant has the right to choose all providers who render care, including the care management company.

Additional Community Resources:

- **Indiana Family to Family (INF2F)**- INF2F is available to help answer your questions about waivers and provide support as you navigate the process. They also offer access to information and resources about a variety of topics such as health insurance, special education, community resources, and medical homes. This assistance is free and available in all parts of the state. To learn more, visit <https://www.inf2f.org/> or call 1-844-323-4636 and ask to speak to a specialist in your area.
- **The Arc of Indiana**- The Arc of Indiana provides information on legislative and administrative efforts related to the waivers. To learn more, visit <https://arcind.org/> or call 1-800-382-9100.

Programs and systems change often. It is important to ensure that you are using the most current information. This fact sheet was updated July 2024. Please check <https://www.inf2f.org/fact-sheets.html> or the most recent edition.

This fact sheet was supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$89,140 with 64% percent financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of INF2F and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit [HRSA.gov](https://www.hrsa.gov).