

---

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

---

**COVERAGE GROUPS**

---

**G. OPTIONAL  
COVERAGE  
OF HOME &  
COMMUNITY  
BASED SERVICES  
(HCBS) WAIVER  
PROGRAM**

Section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act permits States to offer, under a waiver of statutory requirements, an array of home and community based services that an individual needs to avoid institutionalization. The following outlines the different HCBS Waiver Programs currently available under Mississippi's Medicaid Program and the coverage groups eligible for participation in each program.

**1. HCBS  
for the  
Elderly &  
Disabled**

Through Medicaid, the Elderly & Disabled Waiver provides services to individuals who, but for the provision of services would require the level of care provided in a nursing facility. Beneficiaries of this waiver initially had to qualify for Medicaid as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) beneficiaries or meet the income and resource eligibility requirements for Poverty Level Aged and Disabled (PLAD) program. The PLAD coverage group was added to the HCBS Waiver effective July 1, 1999, and discontinued effective 12/31/05. Effective July 1, 2000, beneficiaries of this waiver can have income up to 300% of the SSI Federal Benefit Rate, which is the institutional income limit. Individuals who apply to participate in this waiver must also have deficits in at least three of their activities of daily living.

The waiver services currently available in addition to all regular Medicaid services are:

- case management
- adult day care
- home delivered meals
- institutional respite
- in-home respite care
- homemaker services
- escorted transportation
- extended home health visits

Referrals for the program can be made through the Community Long Term Care Division of DOM or the waiver case managers located at each Area Agency on Aging.

---

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

---

**COVERAGE GROUPS**

---

2. **HCBS  
Waiver for  
the Physically  
Handicapped  
(Independent  
Living Waiver**

This waiver program is commonly referred to as the Independent Living Waiver. This waiver was created to assist severely orthopedically and neurologically impaired individuals live independently through the services of a personal care attendant. Beneficiaries of this waiver must be able to communicate effectively with the care giver and service provider. There is no age restriction for participation. Participants in this waiver are limited to:

- SSI recipients
- Individuals determined eligible by Medicaid Regional Offices for the Independent Living Waiver that have income up to 300% of the SSI Federal Benefit Rate.

The waiver services currently available in addition to the regular Medicaid services are:

- personal care attendant services
- case management

Referrals for this statewide program may be made through the Community Long Term Care Division of DOM or through the Department of Rehabilitation Services.

3. **HCBS  
Waiver for  
the Mentally  
Retarded/  
Developmentally  
Disabled  
(MR/DD  
Waiver)**

The MR/DD Waiver provides services to individuals who, but for the provision of such services, would require the level of care found in an ICF-MR (Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded).

Participants in this waiver are limited to those covered under Medicaid as:

- SSI recipients
- Disabled Child Living At Home recipients
- PLAD - Effective 07/01/99
- Effective 07/01/00, beneficiaries of this waiver can have income up to 300% of the SSI Federal Benefit Rate, which is the institutional income limit.

---

---

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**  
**COVERAGE GROUPS**

---

---

The waiver services currently available in addition to the regular Medicaid services are:

- in-home respite care
- community respite care
- ICF-MR respite care
- residential habilitation
- attendant care aide
- day habilitation
- pre-vocational services
- supported employment
- physical therapy
- occupational therapy
- speech, language & hearing services
- behavioral support & intervention
- specialized medical supplies

Referrals for this statewide program may be made through the Community Long Term Care Division of DOM, the Bureau of Mental Retardation with the Department of Mental Health or the waiver case managers located at each of the Regional ICF-MR's operated by the Department of Mental Health.

**4. Assisted Living Waiver**

Effective 10/01/00, the Assisted Living provides services to individuals who, but for the provision of home and community-based services, would require replacement in a nursing facility. Assisted living services can be provided in licensed personal care homes, community residential care facilities, or in a congregate housing services program that are approved Medicaid providers.

---

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

---

**COVERAGE GROUPS**

---

Participants in this waiver are limited to:

- Individuals 21 years of age or older
- Individuals that must require assistance with at least three activities of daily living, or
- Individuals that have a diagnosis of Alzheimer=s Disease or another type of dementia and require assistance with two or more activities of daily living.
- Beneficiaries of the waiver can have income up to 300% of the SSI Federal Benefit Rate, which is the institutional income limit.

In addition to the regular Medicaid services, the following services are available to eligible beneficiaries.

- case management
- personal care
- homemaker services
- chore services
- attendant care
- medication oversight
- medication administration
- therapeutic social and recreational programming
- intermittent skilled nursing services
- transportation
- attendant call system

This waiver is limited to the following seven counties:

Bolivar	Hinds	Sunflower
Forrest	Lee	
Harrison	Newton	

Referrals for this program may be made through the Community Long Term Care Division of DOM.

---

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

---

**COVERAGE GROUPS**

---

**5. Traumatic Brain  
Injury and Spinal  
Cord Injury  
(TBI/SCI)**

This waiver program was created to assist individuals who have a traumatic brain or spinal cord injury, who but for the provisions of this service, would require the level of care provided in a nursing facility.

Effective July 1, 2001, individuals must meet the following criteria:

- Have a diagnosis of a traumatic brain injury or spinal cord injury
- Must be medically stable
- Cannot have an active life threatening condition that would require systematic therapeutic measures, IV drip to control or support blood pressure, intercranial pressure or arterial monitoring

Services offered through the TBI/SCI Waiver include:

- Case management
- In-Home Nursing Respite
- In-Home Companion Respite
- Institutional Respite
- Attendant Care Services
- Environment Accessibility Adaptations
- Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies

Participants in this waiver age limited to those covered under Medicaid as:

- Low Income Families with Children
- SSI recipients
- Children under age 19
- Foster Care Children
- Disabled Children Living at Home
- 300% FBR income (nursing home limit)

Referrals for this program may be made through the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services.