

**An Introduction to Understanding Colorado's  
Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waivers:  
*The Elderly, Blind & Disabled Waiver***

# Objectives

- Criteria for the EBD waiver
- Person Centered Thinking- Who Is Your Son or Daughter?
- Level of Care Assessment/ Guidelines
- Services available through the EBD Waiver
- How to apply?
- Next Steps

This presentation is an introductory presentation to understanding the HCBS Elderly, Blind & Disabled Waiver in Colorado. We have done our best to ensure accuracy of the information you are about to hear as of July 2016.

The Arc Arapahoe and Douglas is providing this video as a public service to families, you need to decide if this is right for you.

The Arc Arapahoe and Douglas is a private, non-profit membership organization that exists to better the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families. We are not a government agency. We provide advocacy, information, education and support.

# The Elderly, Blind & Disabled (EBD) Waiver

The EBD Waiver is for persons who are Elderly, Blind, or Disabled (EBD). It provides assistance to people ages 65 and older who have a functional impairment or are blind, and to people ages 18-64 who are physically disabled or have a diagnosis of HIV or AIDS, and require long-term supports and services in order to remain in a community setting.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/elderly-blind-disabled-waiver-ebd>

The EBD Waiver does not specifically target individuals affected by intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD). The waiver was utilized to great effect when both of the I/DD waiver had extensive waitlists. Since this waiver is from another system, the criteria, process, and assessment will look very different that either of the I/DD waivers.

# Eligibility Requirements

## FINANCIAL

- Determined by the county department of social services in which the applicant resides
- In general, a single applicant may not have:
  - More than \$2000 in resources
  - A monthly income above \$2199.
- Other factors:
  - Age
  - Marital
  - Disability status

## FUNCTIONAL

- An applicant must be found to need moderate or greater assistance in the following areas:
  - Bathing, Dressing, Toileting, Mobility, Transfers, Eatingand/or
  - Supervision due to unsafe behaviors or memory/ cognition issues
- An applicant must meet Nursing Facility Level of Care Guidelines

# Who is your son or daughter?

- What does your son or daughter want to do/accomplish?
- What services do they need to get there?
- Can they be left alone in the home?
- What will they do during the day - can they do any of this alone?
- Will EBD services enhance their quality of life?

# Who is your son or daughter?

- If your son or daughter cannot spend any time alone, how will they be supervised/cared for if the waiver can't cover all hours when parents or natural supports are unavailable or working?
- If your son or daughter has a hard time expressing their preferences, what experiences would be helpful for people to observe to guess on preferences?
- Think about environments. Are busy noisy environments good? Bad?
- Does your son or daughter thrive with predictable routines and schedules or do they like surprises and novelty?



# Who is your son or daughter?

- What about medical needs? Allergies, skilled nursing care, stamina, activity levels?
- What about sensory issues? Lighting, noise, temperature, colors, etc.
- What about mental health needs? Are behavioral services needed?
- Does your son or daughter have a strong work ethic? Do they like to be busy?
- Does your son or daughter like to help other people or animals?

# Level of Care Assessment / Guidelines

- Assessment information is obtained through a face-to-face visit, care manager observations, and collateral contacts.
- An individual's need for assistance with housekeeping, meal preparation and/or laundry are considered in planning for a client's service needs, however, these factors alone do not determine functional eligibility.
- Medical information provided by a physician is also required for the EBD Medicaid Waiver.



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# Services Available

- Adult Day Services
- Alternative Care Facilities
- Community Transition Services
- Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS)
- Homemaker Services
- Home Modifications
- In-Home Support Services
- Medication Reminder
- Non-Medical Transportation
- Personal Care Services
- Personal Emergency Response System
- Respite Care Services

# How to Apply?

- Since this waiver is NOT an I/DD waiver, individuals must contact the single entry point (SEP). The SEPs provide case management, care planning, and make referrals to other resources for Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) members with the following qualifying needs: elderly, blind and disabled, mental health, persons living with AIDS, brain injury, spinal cord injury, children with a life-limiting illness, children with a physical disability.
- A list of SEPs can be found here: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/single-entry-point-agencies>

# Next Steps

- *This is an starting point.* We've intentionally presented the information in a slow, deliberate and conversational manner so that it can sink in. This is a complicated system and you are not alone in trying to understand it.
- *Sign up for our Weekly Update.* As we put more videos and presentations online, it allows us to offer more in-depth presentations in person. Check out our calendar and sign up for a workshop that can explore these waivers in a more in-depth manner and help you make decisions about which one might be best for your loved on.
- *Contact us!* We are here to help. We offer community education classes and individual advocacy for the lifespan. We want to support you and your family on this journey.