

## Funding Priorities in Law

### [Nebraska Revised State Statute 83-1216](#)

addresses priority funding for people who have been determined eligible for developmental disabilities services.

The priorities for receiving funding on Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) DD waivers are:

- 1) To respond to the needs of **people in immediate crisis** due to caregiver death, homelessness or a threat to the life and safety of the person.
- 2) To respond to the needs of **people who have resided in an institutional setting** for a period of at least 12 consecutive months and are requesting community-based services.
- 3) To respond to the needs of **people who are wards of the Department or persons placed under the supervision of the Office of Probation Administration** by the Nebraska court system who are transitioning upon age 19 with no other alternatives, as determined by the Department, to support residential services necessary to pursue economic self-sufficiency.
- 4) To respond to the needs of **people transitioning from the education system upon becoming 21 years of age** to maintain skills and receive the day services necessary to pursue economic self-sufficiency.
- 5) To respond to the needs of **people who are dependents of a member of the U.S. armed forces** who is a legal resident of this state due to the service member's military assignment in Nebraska.
- 6) To respond to the needs of **all other people by date of application**.

## Important Initials to Know

**DD**  
Developmental Disabilities

**DDD**  
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities

**HCBS**  
Home and Community-Based Services

**SC**  
Service Coordinator

**For questions or to request a Service Coordinator:**

**Call toll free**  
877-667-6266

**Email**  
DHHS.DDRegistry@nebraska.gov

### **DHHS** Division of Developmental Disabilities

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# Developmental Disabilities Services

## Funding to Transition from Educational Services to Medicaid HCBS DD Waiver Services

# NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

**DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

*"Helping People Live Better Lives"*

Rev. Fall 2021

DDD administers Medicaid HCBS waivers.

## What does Nebraska Revised State Statute 83-1216 mean for a graduate?

A 21-year-old graduate is offered funding under the fourth funding priority when transitioning out of the educational system. This priority is to maintain skills and receive day services to pursue economic self-sufficiency. Funding is for day services through the Medicaid HCBS Developmental Disabilities Adult Day (DDAD) Waiver.

A 21-year-old graduate may not automatically receive funding when there is someone with a higher priority need.

However, based on historical data, the state has reserved funding for enough waiver slots (200 per year) to continue serving all new graduates under the fourth funding priority.

## Service Coordinators

A Service Coordinator (SC) provides targeted case management and is available for all eligible people.

The SC can help the person access other benefits and services. The SC can attend school individual educational program (IEP) meetings when invited by a guardian. The guardian can ask the school to invite the SC.

The SC, school system, and vocational rehabilitation work together for a smooth transition to adult services.

## Funding Offers to 21-year-old DD-Eligible Graduates

A person submits an application for Medicaid HCBS developmental disabilities (DD) waiver services and is determined eligible.



A Service Coordinator (SC) explains DD waiver service options at the last individual educational program (IEP) meeting in the educational program.



60-90 days before an eligible person graduates, their SC begins the intake process.



DDD contacts the person and offers a DDAD waiver slot. This waiver slot provides funding for DD day services after graduation.



The person must accept a DDAD waiver slot to become a participant in DD services under the fourth priority.



DDD completes an assessment to determine the funding amount the participant will receive to meet their needs.



The participant chooses which providers to use for their DD waiver services.



SC completes referral for any agency providers and helps any independent providers with enrollment.



SC holds an intake individual supports plan (ISP) meeting to identify DD waiver services and assign responsibility to providers.



SC completes service authorizations assigning funding to providers.

## The DD Registry

The DD Registry is a list of eligible people who are waiting for DD waiver services and who:

- Meet institutional level of care with a need level consistent with Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID) and
- Receive Medicaid (or are a child who would be eligible if not for parental income).

People on the DD Registry are waiting for funding on a DD waiver under a priority.

The list of eligible persons turning 21 years old is based on the DD Registry. A person accepting day services through the DDAD Waiver may remain on the Registry for residential services through the Medicaid HCBS Comprehensive Developmental Disabilities (CDD) Waiver.

A person who declines the CDD Waiver when residential services are offered will be taken off the DD Registry and will need to reapply if they want Medicaid HCBS DD waiver services in the future.

Questions? Email [DHHS.DDRegistry@nebraska.gov](mailto:DHHS.DDRegistry@nebraska.gov)

## Other Benefits and Services

Any person who is eligible for Medicaid HCBS DD waiver services must apply for, and accept, any federal Medicaid benefits for which they may be eligible, and benefits from other funding sources within DHHS and other agencies, to the maximum extent possible.

This includes the Department of Education. Specifically, it includes vocational rehabilitation services.