

## PENNSYLVANIA WAIVER PROGRAMS

Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Programs are available in Pennsylvania to provide supportive medical and non-medical services to qualified individuals with disabilities in their home or in another community-based setting in order to help them live independently in the community.

Who is eligible for waiver programs?

There are both functional and financial requirements that must be met for each waiver:

Functional eligibility varies from program to program, as described below.

Financial eligibility for programs require that individuals must have countable income below \$2,022/month and countable resources below \$8,000 (includes savings accounts and investments).

**Please note that entry into a waiver program is not guaranteed.** There are limited funds available and some consumers may be placed on a waiting list before they can receive services.

The Waivers most likely to be appropriate for and available to members of the Philadelphia Independence Network are:

### INDEPENDENCE WAIVER

**Functional eligibility:** Individuals who are 18 and over with a physical disability likely to continue indefinitely. The individual cannot have an intellectual disability or a mental health disorder listed as a primary diagnosis.

Must have **substantial functional limitations** in at least 3 of the following areas:

Mobility	Self Care	Communication (understanding and use of language)
Learning	Self-direction	Capacity for independent living

### Services available through this waiver:

Assistive Technology/Specialized medical equipment and supplies

Community Integration                      Educational Services                      Personal Assistance Services

Environmental Modifications              Community Transition                      Supports Coordination

Respite Care                                      Visiting nurse                                      Transportation

Therapies (PT, OT, Speech, Behavioral)                                      Personal Emergency Response System

Family members (other than a spouse or parent/step-parent of a minor child) may receive payment to provide personal assistance service and respite services if the family member does not live in the consumer's household.

Personal Assistance Services and Respite Care can be received through the **Consumer Directed Model**, where the consumer hires, trains, schedules, and supervises someone to provide their personal assistance services and/or respite care, or through the **Agency Directed Model**, where a provider agency performs those tasks for the consumer, or through a **combination of the two models**. Individuals who choose the Consumer Directed Model can receive Financial Management Services to help with some of the tasks of being an employer (payroll, tax filing, etc).

### AUTISM WAIVER

#### Functional Criteria:

Individuals who are 21 and older with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (such as Childhood Disintegrative Disorder, Pervasive Developmental Disorder-Not Otherwise Specified, Rett Disorder).

Must have significant functional limitations in daily living skills such as communication, learning, mobility, or capacity for independent living.

**Services available through this waiver:**

Providers of these services are required to complete an Autism-specific training program approved by the Bureau of Autism Services. The participant will choose a supports coordination agency to conduct assessments and to help the individual develop his/her Individual Support Plan (ISP). Currently, this waiver only offers agency-managed services; however, DPW plans to add participant-directed services at a later date.

Assistive Technology	Behavioral Specialist	Community Inclusion
Community Transition	Family Counseling	Family Training
Day Habilitation	Nutritional Consultation	Respite
Job Assessment & Finding	Residential Habilitation	Home Modifications
Supported Employment	Temporary Crisis Services	
Transitional Work Services	Therapies (Counseling, Occupational, Speech and Language)	

**PERSON/FAMILY DIRECTED SUPPORT (PFDS) WAIVER**

**Functional eligibility:** Individuals who are age 3 and older with an intellectual disability.

**Services available through this waiver:**

\* These services can be provided by certain family members.

Adaptive appliances and equipment	Licensed Day Habilitation	Visiting nurse
Home and Community Habilitation*	Homemaker/Chore services	Transportation*
Personal support services*	Respite care *	Supports Coordination
Prevocational services	Supported Employment*	Home modifications
Therapies (PT, OT, speech/language, visual/mobility and behavioral)		Transitional work services

**ATTENDANT CARE WAIVER**

**Functional eligibility:** Individuals between the ages of 18 and 59 who have a medically determinable physical impairment that is expected to last at least 12 months.

**Services available through this waiver:**

Community Transition Services	Financial Management	Personal Assistance Services
Supports Coordination Services	Personal Emergency Response Systems (PERS)	

**How can I apply for a waiver?** Philadelphia Independence Network staff can help you understand the waivers available, and guide you through the application process. Or, contact Maximus for enrollment information by calling, toll-free, 1 877 550-4227.