



Resource Guide for Attorneys

Working with Families with Disabilities

By Carrie Ann Lucas
Staff Attorney – Case Strategy Director
Office of Respondent Parents' Counsel
1300 Broadway, Ste 340
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 731-8770
www.coloradoorpc.org

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Introduction

This resource guide is designed to be a resource for attorneys working with disabled parents, and parents with disabled children, their families and advocates. It is not an exhaustive resource, but rather a starting point to assist individuals in protecting their rights, accessing services, and finding support along their journey.

Health First Colorado

Enacted in 1965 through amendments to the Social Security Act, Medicaid is a health and long-term care coverage program that is jointly financed by states and the federal government. Each state establishes and administers its own Medicaid program and determines the type, amount, duration, and scope of services covered within broad federal guidelines. States must cover certain mandatory benefits and may choose to provide other optional benefits. Colorado's Medicaid program is called Health First Colorado.

Doctor visits, hospital stays, mental health coverage, and prescription coverage are all state plan benefits. In Colorado, long term skilled nursing care (RN, LPN and CNA services) are also part of the state plan.

On the Federal level, Medicaid is administered by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS). CMS can be found at <http://www.cms.gov/>. CMS creates rules and regulations for the administration of Medicaid by states. States must follow those rules and regulations unless they have asked for, and received a waiver from any particular rule. Colorado has received various waivers, most of which allow the state to provide community care for people with disabilities.

Health First Colorado is administered by the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing. You can find HCPF at <http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf>.

The Health First Colorado state plan can be found at the following link:
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/colorado-medicaid-state-plan>.

Federal law requires states to cover certain mandatory eligibility groups, including qualified parents, children, and pregnant women with low income, as well as older adults and people with disabilities with low income. States have the flexibility to cover other optional eligibility groups and set eligibility criteria within the federal standards.

In Colorado children and adults receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) automatically receive Health First Colorado.

Poor pregnant women and children receive Health First Colorado as well as very poor custodial parents of Health First Colorado eligible children. Many single adults can now access Health First Colorado through the Affordable Care Act Medicaid expansion.

Disabled adults who have more moderate incomes can access Health First Colorado through Home and Community Services (HCBS) waivers if they meet the eligibility criteria. *See* page 10.

Disabled adults and children whose income is too high for other programs, but within regulatory limits can also access Health First Colorado through the Medicaid Buy-In program. *See* page 28.

To apply for Health First Colorado, contact your local County Department of Social/Human Services.

Health First Colorado Early & Periodic Screening & Diagnostic Treatment Benefit

All Health First Colorado eligible children under the age of 21 are eligible for special benefits through the EPSDT (Early and Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment) program. This is a vital but often overlooked program to assist children with disabilities and their families in Colorado.

EPSDT includes periodic screening, vision, dental and hearing services. In addition, under the Social Security Act Section 1905(r)(5), states are required to provide any medically necessary health care services listed at section 1905 (a) of the Social Security Act to correct and ameliorate physical and mental conditions even if the service is not included under the state's Medicaid plan. This means that **no Health First Colorado eligible child in Colorado should be denied medically necessary services** under with a small handful of exceptions (including experimental and investigational services).

EPSDT screenings are conducted by physicians or certified nurse practitioners and can occur during comprehensive well – care checkups and screening and during all other times when there is a change in the child's condition. The initial EPSDT screen must be completed during a well-child visit. At that screen, the medical provider must identify the medically necessary services for the child. During later visits, other services can be recommended.

What are the required components in EPSDT screenings?

- Comprehensive health & developmental history
- Comprehensive unclothed physical examination
- Assessment of physical, emotional & developmental history
- Immunizations appropriate to age & health history
- Laboratory tests (including blood lead level assessment appropriate to age & risk)
- Assessment of mental/behavioral health
- Assessment of mouth, oral cavity & teeth, including referral to a dentist
- Assessment of nutritional status
- Vision assessment including referrals
- Hearing assessment including referrals
- Health education (anticipatory guidance)
- Family planning services and adolescent maternity care
- Treatment and referrals for any necessary treatment services

All requests for EPSDT treatment services:

- Must be deemed medically necessary to correct or ameliorate a health or mental health conditions
- The need for specialist referral or treatment must be documented during an EPSDT screening
- Services that are considered experimental or investigational are not covered

EPSDT Specialized Services are medically necessary treatment services that are not a routinely covered service through Health First Colorado. All EPSDT “specialized services” must be a service that is allowed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The allowable treatment services are defined in the United States Code in 42 U.S.C. § 1396d(r)(5).

The EPSDT Program also offers Outreach and Case Management services for free if the parent is pregnant or has children who are under the age of 20. Outreach Coordinators can help families get the most out of your benefits by helping families find Health First Colorado providers, by:

- Assisting you in working with the medical system
- Connecting you to low cost services and referrals to places in your community such as Head Start and food banks
- Acting as a link with other programs and services
- Acting as the first level of client advocacy to help you solve problems with your healthcare

EPSDT specialized services can include:

- Family Planning
- Hospice Care
- Mental Health Services – including residential treatment
- NEMT – Non Emergent Medical Transportation
- Private Duty Nursing
- Extra Ordinary Home Health
- Personal Care
- Skilled Nursing Facility (31st Day)
- Orthodontia assessment and coverage for some children
- CHIP – Colorado Home Intervention Program
- Outreach and Case Management Services
- Hearing Aids and Batteries
- Dental Services
- Substance Abuse Residential Treatment Services

Each county has a designated case management coordinator. Contact information for the case management agency for your county is listed below. You can learn more about Colorado EPSDT at this link: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/early-and-periodic-screening-diagnostic-and-treatment-epsdt>

Healthy Communities Outreach and Case Management Locations

Office	Phone Number	Counties Covered	Address
Boulder County Housing and Human Services	303- 678-6141	Boulder	3400 Broadway St. Boulder, CO 80304
Broomfield Health and Human Services	720-887-2230 303-567-3144	Broomfield	6 Garden Center Broomfield, CO 80020
Clear Creek County Public Health	303-670-7537	Clear Creek, Gilpin	1531 Colorado Blvd, Idaho Springs, CO 80452
Delta County Public Health	970-874-2165	Delta	225 West 6 th Street Delta, CO 81416
Denver Health and Hospital Authority	303-602-6768	Denver	990 Bannock St., Mail Code 7779 Denver, CO 80204
Eagle County Health & Human Services	970-328-9819	Eagle	551 Broadway, Eagle, CO 81631

Office	Phone Number	Counties Covered	Address
El Paso - Memorial Hospital	719-365-9386	El Paso	1400 E. Boulder St. Colorado Springs, CO 80909
Fremont County Public Health Agency	719-276-7452	Custer and Fremont	201 North 6th Street, Cañon City, CO 81212
Garfield County Public Health Agency	970-665-6371	Garfield and Pitkin	195 W. 14th St. Rifle, CO 81650
Gunnison County Department of Health and Human Services	970-641-7999	Gunnison, Hinsdale	225 N. Pine St. #B, Gunnison, CO 81230
Jefferson County Public Health	303-239-7027	Jefferson	645 Parfet St., Lakewood, CO 80215
Kit Carson Health and Human Services	719-346-7158 x131	Kit Carson, Lincoln, Elbert, and Cheyenne	252 S. 14th St. Burlington, CO 80807
Larimer County Department of Health	970-498-6755	Larimer	1525 S. Blue Spruce Dr. Ft Collins, CO 80524
Mesa County Health Department	970-248-6930 888-685-8576	Mesa, , Ouray, and San Miguel	510 - 29½ Road Grand Junction, CO 81506
Montrose Health and Human Services	970-252-5000 or 970-964-2482	Montrose	1845 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, CO 81401
Northeast Colorado Health Department	970-522-3741 x1253 970-522-3741 x1247 970-522-3741 x1242 970-522-3741 x1237 970-848-3811 x3026	Logan Washington, Yuma	700 Columbine St., Sterling, CO 80751
Northeast Colorado Health Department	970-854-2717 x5022	Phillips, Sedgwick	127 E Denver St., Suite C Holyoke, CO 80734
Northwest Colorado Visiting Nurses Association	970-824-8233	Routt, Moffat, Grand Rio Blanco and Jackson	940 Central Park Dr. Steamboat Springs, CO 80407

Office	Phone Number	Counties Covered	Address
Otero County Health Department	Otero: 719-267-5247 Bent: 719-456-0517 Las Animas: 719-846-2213 Huerfano: 719-738-2650 Crowley: 719-267-6246	Otero Bent Huerfano/Las Animas, Crowley	13 W. 3 rd Street La Junta, CO 81050
Park County Public Health Department	303-816-5943 970-668-9710	Park Summit	Park 825 Clark St., Fairplay, CO 80440 Summit 360 Peak One Dr. Suite 230, Frisco, CO 80443
Prowers County Public Health and Environment	719-336-8721	Prowers, Baca and Kiowa	1001 S. Main St., Lamar, CO 81052
Pueblo County Department of Social Services – Pueblo Step Up	719-557-5886	Pueblo	1902 E. Orman Avenue, #A640 Pueblo, CO 81004
Rio Grande County Nursing Service	Alamosa: 719-937-4010 Rio Grande & Mineral: 719-657-2296 Chaffee: 719-539-7290 Saguache: 719-754-2773 Conejos & Costilla: 719-672-3332 Lake: 719-486-7490	Alamosa Rio Grande, Mineral, Saguache Chaffee, Lake Conejos, and Costilla	925 6 th Street Del Norte, CO 81132
San Juan Basin Health Department	970-335-2022	La Plata, Archuleta, Dolores, Montezuma, Archuleta	281 Sawyer Drive Durango, CO 81303 Archuleta 502 S. 8th St., P.O. Box 597, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Office	Phone Number	Counties Covered	Address
Teller County Public Health Department	719-687-6416	Teller	11505 Highway 24 Divide, CO 80814
Tri County Health Department	303-676-2701	Adams Arapahoe Douglas	15400 E. 14th Place, Aurora, CO 80011
Weld County Health Department	970-304-6420 Southwest Weld 720-652-4238	Weld	1555 N. 17th Ave., Greeley, CO 80631 Southwest: 4209 County Road 24 ½, Longmont, CO 80504

Colorado Home and Community Based Services (“HCBS”) Health First Colorado Waivers

Waiver programs provide additional Health First Colorado benefits to specific populations who meet special eligibility criteria. The list below summarizes those benefits and criteria, and tells you how to apply for Health First Colorado under a waiver. For some people, a waiver is the only way to qualify for Health First Colorado.

Clients must meet financial, medical, and program criteria to access services under a waiver. The applicant’s income must be less than \$2,205 (2017) (300%, or three times, the Supplemental Security Income allowance) per month and countable resources less than \$2,000 for a single person or \$3,000 for a couple. For children, the income and resource limit is based upon the child’s income and resources. For adults, the income and resource limit is based upon the adult’s income and resources, and does not include the spouse’s income and resources. The home a person lives in, and their vehicle typically do not count toward the resource limit.

The applicant must also be at risk of placement in a nursing facility, hospital, or ICF/MR (intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded) without services. To utilize waiver benefits, clients must be willing to receive services in their homes or communities. A client who receives services through a waiver is also eligible for all basic Health First Colorado covered services except nursing facility and long-term hospital care. When a client chooses to receive services under a waiver, the services must be provided by certified Health First Colorado providers, by a Health First Colorado contracting managed care organization, or through the CDASS or IHSS programs. The cost of waiver services cannot be more than the cost of placement in a nursing facility, hospital, or ICF/MR.

Each waiver has an enrollment limit. There may be a waiting list for any particular waiver. Applicants may apply for more than one waiver, but may only receive services through one waiver at a time. Anyone who is denied Health First Colorado eligibility for any reason has a right to appeal.

Children's HCBS Waiver

To provide Health First Colorado benefits in the home or community for disabled children who would otherwise be ineligible for Health First Colorado due to excess parental income and/or resources. Children must be at risk of nursing facility or hospital placement.

Population:

Birth through age 17

Disabled children in the home at risk of nursing facility or hospital placement.

Medical Criteria:

Nursing facility or hospital level of care.

Services:

- Case management
- In home support services (IHSS)

Regulations:

C.R.S. 25.5-6-901, as amended; 42 C.F.R. 441.300 – 310;

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, 10.C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.506

Apply at: County Single Entry Point (SEP) or Community Centered Board (CCB)

HCBS – Children with Autism Waiver

To provide Health First Colorado benefits in the home or community for children with a medical diagnosis of Autism who are most in need due to the severity of their disability. Children must meet additional targeted criteria.

Population:

Birth through age 5

Children medically diagnosed with Autism with intensive behavioral needs who are at risk of institutionalization.

Medical Criteria:

Diagnosed with Autism

Under 6 years of age

Services:

- Case Management
- Behavioral therapies

Regulations:

C.R.S. 25.5-6-801– 805, as amended

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, 10.C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.519

Apply at: Community Centered Board (CCB)

Children's Extensive Support (“CES”)Waiver

To provide Health First Colorado benefits in the home or community for children with developmental disabilities or delays, that are most in need due to the severity of their disability. Children must meet additional targeted criteria.

Population:

Birth through age 17

Children with intensive behavioral or medical needs who are at risk of institutionalization. Children, birth through age 4, must have a developmental delay. Children, 5 through 17, must have a developmental disability.

Medical Criteria:

Intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded level of care.

Services:

- Specialized Medical Equipment & Supplies
- Community Connection Services
- Home modifications
- Personal assistance
- Professional services (incl. behavioral)

Regulations:

C.R.S. 27-10.5-401, as amended; C.R.S. 25.5-6-401-411, as amended; 42 C.F.R. 441.300-310

Department of Human Services, Developmental Disabilities Services, 2 CCR 503-1;
Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, 10.C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.503

Apply at: Community Centered Board (CCB)

Children's Habilitation Residential Program ("CHRP") Waiver

To provide residential services for children and youth in foster care who have a developmental disability and extraordinary needs. Children must be at risk for institutionalization.

Population:

Birth to 21 years of age

Children from birth to 21 years of age who are placed through a County Department of Social Services, have a developmental disability and extraordinary service needs, and for whom services cannot be provided at the county negotiated rate.

Medical Criteria:

Children/youth must be determined to be at risk of institutionalization in an intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded level of care by his/her physician

Services:

The waiver is designed to assist children/youth to acquire, retain, and/or improve self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills necessary to live in the community with a plan to include the following services:

- Cognitive services
- Communication services
- Community Connection Services
- Counseling and therapeutic services
- Emergency assistance training
- Independent living training
- Personal care services
- Self-advocacy training
- Supervision services
- Travel services

Regulations: C.R.S. 25.5-5-306(1) (1995 Supp); C.R.S. 27-10.5-102(11) (1995 Supp)
Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Services, 10.C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.508

Apply at: County Department of Social or Human Services for children and youth in out-of-home placement

Pediatric Hospice Waiver (HOPEFUL Program)

This waiver provides access to Health First Colorado services for children with a life-limiting illness. The HCBS Pediatric Hospice Waiver (HCBS PHW) is for children from birth to age nineteen with The HCBS PHW allows children to live in their community while keeping them out of institutions.

Population:

Birth to age 19,.

Medical criteria:

Children with a medical diagnosis of a life-limiting illness who meet the institutional level of care for inpatient hospitalization.

Services:

- Palliative /Supportive care (does not require a six month terminal prognosis for the client).
- Expressive therapy includes, but is not limited to, book writing, painting, music therapy and scrapbook making. Expressive therapy is limited to 39 hours per year.
- Client/Family/Caregiver Counseling provided in individual or group setting
- Client/Family/Caregiver Counseling is limited to 98 hours per year.
- Client/Family/Caregiver Counseling is a benefit if it is not available under Health First Colorado EPSDT coverage, Health First Colorado State Plan benefits, and third party liability coverage or by other means.
- Respite Care provided in the home of an eligible client on a short term basis, not to exceed 30 days per year. Respite Care shall not be duplicated on the same date of service as state plan Home Health or Palliative/Supportive Care services.

Apply at: Single Entry Point (SEP)

HCBS Waiver for Persons with Brain Injury (“HCBS-BI”)

To provide a home or community based alternative to hospital or specialized nursing facility care for persons with brain injury.

Population:

Age 16 through 64

Persons with brain injury as defined in the Colorado Code of Regulations with specific diagnostic codes.

Medical Criteria:

Hospital or nursing facility level of care.

Services:

- Adult day services
- Specialized Medical Equipment & Supplies
- Behavioral management
- Day treatment
- Home modifications
- Mental health counseling
- Non-medical transportation
- Personal care
- Respite care
- Substance Abuse Counseling · Supported Living Program
- Transitional Living
- Personalized Emergency Response System
- Consumer Directed Attendant Support Service (CDASS)

Regulations

C.R.S. 25.5-6.701-706, as amended; 42 C.F.R. 441.300 - 310

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, 10.C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.515

Apply at: County Single Entry Point (SEP)

HCBS Community Mental Health Services Waiver (“HCBS-MH”)

To provide a home or community based alternative to nursing facility care for persons with major mental illness.

Population:

Age 18 and older

Persons with a diagnosis of major mental illness.

Medical Criteria:

Nursing facility level of care.

Services:

- Adult day services
- Alternative care facilities
- Personal Emergency Response System
- Home modifications

- Homemaker services
- Non-medical transportation
- Personal care
- Respite care
- Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS)

Regulations:

C.R.S. 25.5-6-601-607, as amended; 42 C.F.R. 441.300 – 310

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, 10.C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.509

Apply at: County Single Entry Point (SEP)

HCBS Waiver for Persons Living with AIDS (“HCBS-PLWA”)

To provide a home or community based alternative to hospital or nursing facility care for persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Population:

All ages

Persons with a diagnosis of HIV/AIDS.

Medical Criteria:

Nursing facility or hospital level of care.

Services:

- Adult day services
- Personal Emergency Response System
- Homemaker services
- Non-medical transportation
- Personal care
- Private duty nursing

Regulations:

C.R.S. 25.5-6-501-508, as amended; 42 C.F.R. 441.300 – 310

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, 10.C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.496

Apply at: County Single Entry Point (SEP)

HCBS Waiver for Persons Who Are Elderly, Blind, and Disabled (“HCBS-EBD”)

To provide a home or community based alternative to nursing facility care for elderly, blind, and disabled persons.

Population:

Age 18 and older

Elderly persons with a functional impairment (aged 65+) or blind or physically disabled persons (aged 18-64).

Medical Criteria:

Nursing facility level of care.

Services:

- Adult day services
- Alternative care facilities
- Community transition services
- Personal Emergency Response System
- Home modifications
- Homemaker services
- In home support services (IHSS)
- Non-medical transportation
- Personal care
- Respite care
- Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS)

Regulations: C.R.S. 25.5-6-301-313, as amended; 42 C.F.R. 441.300 – 310

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, 10.C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.485

Apply at: County Single Entry Point (SEP)

HCBS Waiver for Persons with Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)

To provide a home or community based alternative for persons with a Spinal Cord Injury.

Population:

18 and older

Persons with a spinal cord injury as defined in the Colorado Code of Regulations with specific diagnostic codes.

Medical Criteria:

Nursing Facility Level of Care

Services:

- Adult Day Services
- Alternative Therapies: Acupuncture, Chiropractic, Message Therapy
- Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS)
- Home Modifications
- In Home Support Services (IHSS)
- Non-Medical Transportation
- Personal Emergency Response System
- Personal Care
- Respite Care

Regulations:

C. R. S. 25.5-6.1301-13.04, as amended; 42 C.F.R. 441.300-310

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing

10.CCR.2505-10, Section 8.517

Supported Living Services Waiver (“SLS”)

To provide to persons with developmental disabilities supported living in the home or community.

Population:

Age 18 and older

Persons who can either live independently with limited supports or who, if they need extensive supports, are already receiving that high level of support from other sources, such as family.

Medical Criteria:

Intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded level of care.

Services:

- Specialized Medical Equipment & Supplies
- Counseling and therapeutic services
- Dental services
- Day habilitation services (specialized, community access)
- Hearing services
- Home modifications · Personal assistant services · Supported living consultation · Transportation · Vision services
- Employment (pre-vocational and supported employment)

Regulations:

C.R.S. 27-10.5-101 – 103, as amended; C.R.S. 25.5-6-401-411, as amended; 42 C.F.R.

441.300 – 310

Department of Human Services, Developmental Disabilities Services, 2 CCR 503-1;
Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, 10.C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.500.90

Apply at: Community Centered Board (CCB)

Waiver for Persons Developmentally Disabled (“Comp” or “Comprehensive Services”)

To provide to persons with developmental disabilities services and supports out of the family home which allow them to continue to live in the community.

Population:

Age 18 and older

Persons who require extensive supports to live safely, including access to 24-hour supervision, and who do not have other resources for meeting those needs.

Medical Criteria:

Intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded level of care.

Services:

- Day habilitation (specialized day, community access)
- Residential habilitation (24 hour individual or group)
- Transportation
- Specialized medical equipment and supplies
- Supported employment
- Skilled nursing
- Behavioral services
- Dental
- Vision

Regulations:

C.R.S., 27-10.5-101 – 103, as amended; C.R.S. 25.5-6-401-411, as amended; 42 C.F.R.
441.300 – 310

Department of Human Services, Developmental Disabilities Services, 2 CCR-503-1;
Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, 10.C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.500

Apply at: Community Centered Board (CCB)

Single Entry Points

Coloradans who need long term care services; including personal care or homemaker services, non-emergency medical transportation, home access modifications, electronic monitoring, assisted living (Alternative Care Facility), adult day programs, and respite care should contact their Colorado Health First Colorado Single Entry Point (SEP) agency. These agencies determine functional eligibility for community-based long-term care programs, provide care planning and case management for clients in these programs, and make referrals to other resources. SEP agencies serve clients by county of residence.

Boulder / Broomfield / Clear Creek / Gilpin

Adult Care Management, Inc.
1455 Dixon Avenue, Suite 105
Lafayette, CO 80026
Main Phone: 303-439-7011
FAX: 866-931-0763
Website: www.acmico.org

Alamosa / Saguache

Alamosa County Public Health Dept
8900-B Independence Way
Alamosa, CO 81101
Main Phone: 719-589-6639
FAX: 719-589-1103
Website:
www.alamosacounty.org/departments/public-health

Bent / Kiowa

Bent County Public Health
701 Park Avenue
Las Animas, CO 81054
Main Phone: 719-456-0517
FAX: 719-456-0518

Custer / Fremont

Central Mountain Options for Long-Term Care (OLTC)
172 Justice Center Road
Canon City, CO 81212

Main Phone: 719-275-2318

FAX: 719-275-5206

Website:

www.fremontco.com/dhs/optionsforlongtermcare.shtml

Chaffee / Lake

Chaffee County Health and Human Services
448 E. 1st Street
Salida, Colorado 81201
Main Phone: 719-530-2505
FAX: 719-539-6430
Website: www.chaffee-hhs.org/departments-of-social-services

Adams / Arapahoe / Denver / Douglas / Elbert

Colorado Access
11100 Bethany Drive
Aurora, CO 80014
Main Phone: 1-877-710-9993
FAX: 1-855-744-1723 (303-649-8901)
Website: www.coaccess.com/access-long-term-support-solutions

Conejos / Costilla

Conejos County Public Health and Nursing Services
19023 S. Highway 285

La Jara, CO 81140
Main Phone: 719-274-4307
FAX: 719-274-4309
Website:
www.conejoscountypublichealth.com

Delta / Gunnison / Hinsdale
Delta County Dept of Health and Human Services
196 W. Hotchkiss Ave.
Hotchkiss, CO 81419
Main Phone: 970-872-1000
FAX: 970-872-1229
Website:
www.deltacounty.com/97/Options-for-Long-Term-Care

Jefferson
Jefferson County Dept of Human Services
900 Jefferson County Parkway
Suite 170
Golden, CO 80401
Main Phone: 303-271-4216
FAX: 303-271-4207
Website: jeffco.us/human-services

Cheyenne / Kit Carson / Lincoln
Kit Carson County Health and Human Services
252 S. 14th Street
Burlington, CO 80807
Main Phone: 719-346-7158
FAX: 719-346-8066
Website:
colorado.gov/kitcarsoncounty/human-services-child-welfare

Larimer
Larimer County Dept of Human Services
1501 Blue Spruce Dr.
Fort Collins, CO 80524
Main Phone: 970-498-6300

FAX: 970-498-7777
Website: larimer.org/humanservices

Huerfano / Las Animas
Las Animas County Dept of Human Services
204 S. Chestnut St.
Trinidad, CO 81082
Main Phone: 719-846-2276
FAX: 719-846-4269
Website:
www.lasanimascounty.net/departments/human-services.html

Mesa
Mesa County Dept of Human Services
510 29 1/2 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81504
Main Phone: 970-248-2888
FAX: 970-255-3632
Secondary FAX: 970-248-2849
Website:
www.humanservices.mesacounty.us

Dolores / Montezuma
Montezuma County Public Health Dept
106 W. North Street
Cortez, CO 81321-3189
Main Phone: 970-564-4772
FAX: 970-565-0647
Website:
montezumacounty.org/web/departments/public-health

Montrose / Ouray / San Miguel
Montrose County Dept of Health and Human Services
1845 S. Townsend Ave.
Montrose, CO 81401
Main Phone: 970-252-5000
FAX: 970-252-5024
Website:

www.co.montrose.co.us/107/Health-Human-Services

Baca / Prowers

Prowers County Public Health and Environment
1001 S. Main Street
Lamar, CO 81052
Main Phone: 719-336-1015
FAX: 719-336-8748
Website: www.prowerscounty.net

Crowley / Otero

Otero County Dept of Human Services Courthouse
13 W. 3rd Street
La Junta, CO 81050
Main Phone: 719-383-3166
FAX: 719-383-4607
Website:
www.oterogov.com/departments/human-services/adult-services

Logan / Morgan / Philips / Sedgwick / Washington / Yuma

Northeast CO Area Agency on Aging
231 Main Street, Suite 211
Fort Morgan, CO 80701
Main Phone: 970-867-9409 or 1-888-696-7212 (Toll Free)
FAX: 970-867-9053
Website:
www.necalg.com/senior/agencyonaging.html

Eagle / Garfield / Grand / Jackson / Moffat / Pitkin / Rio Blanco / Routt / Summit

Human Services - Rifle:
195 W. 14th Street
Rifle, CO 81650
Main Phone: 970-963-1639

FAX: 970-963-1974

Website: www.garfield-county.com/human-services/options-long-term-care.aspx

Pueblo

Pueblo County Dept of Social Services
Options for Long-Term Care (OLTC)
201 W. 8th Street, Suite 120
Pueblo, CO 81003
Main Phone: 719-583-6857
FAX: 719-583-6348
Website:
county.pueblo.org/government/county/department/social-services/social-services

Mineral / Rio Grande

Rio Grande Options for Long-Term Care (OLTC)
925 6th Street
Del Norte, CO 81132
Main Phone: 719-657-4208
FAX: 719-657-4211
Website:
riograndecounty.org/departments/business-offices/social-services

El Paso / Teller / Park

Rocky Mountain Options for Long-Term Care (OLTC)
1645 S. Murray Blvd.
Colorado Springs, CO 80916
Main Phone: 719-457-0660
FAX: 719-457-0762
Website:
www.rmoltc.org

Archuleta / La Plata / San Juan

San Juan Basin Health Dept
281 Sawyer Drive
Durango, CO 81301
Main Phone: 970-335-2071

FAX: 970-335-2059

Website: sjbhd.org

Weld

Weld County Area Agency on Aging

315 N. 11th Avenue

Building C

Greeley, CO 80631

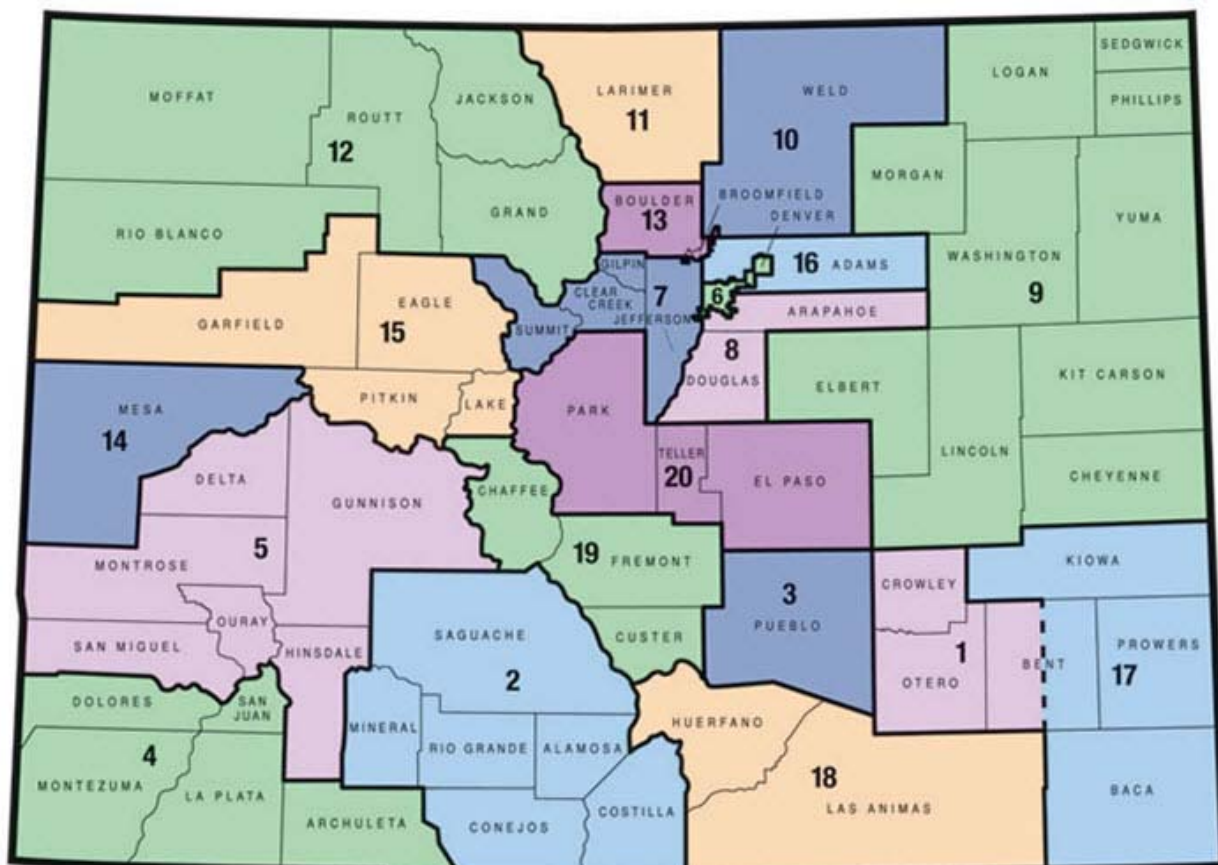
Main Phone: 970-346-6950

FAX: 970-346-6951

www.weldgov.com/departments/human_services/area_agency_on_aging

Community Centered Boards

Community Centered Boards determine eligibility and provide case management services to people who receive the HCBS-DD, HCBS-SLS, HCBS-CES Health First Colorado waivers. They also manage waiting lists for the waiver programs.



(1)
Inspiration Field
612 Adams Avenue
La Junta, CO 81050
(719) 384-8741
<http://www.inspirationfield.org/index.html>

(2)
Blue Peaks Developmental Services
703 Fourth Street
Alamosa, CO 81101
(719) 589-5135
<http://www.bluepeaks.org/>

(3)
Colorado Bluesky Enterprises
115 West 2nd Street
Pueblo, CO 81003
(719) 546-0572
<http://www.coloradobluesky.org/>

(4)
Community Connections
281 Sawyer Drive, #200
Durango, CO 81301
(970) 259-2464
<http://www.cci-colorado.org/>

(5)
Community Options
336 South 10th Street
Montrose, CO 81402
(970) 249-1412
<http://www.communityoptionsinc.org/>

(6)
Rocky Mountain Human Services
9900 E. Iliff Ave.
Denver, CO 80231

(303) 636-5600
<https://www.rmhumanservices.org/>

(7)
Developmental Disabilities Resource
Center
11177 W. 8th Avenue
Lakewood, CO 80215
(303) 233-3363
<http://www.ddrcco.com/>

(8)
Developmental Pathways
325 Inverness Drive South
Englewood, CO 80112
(303) 360-6600
<http://www.developmentalpathways.org/>

(9)
Eastern Colorado Services
617 South 10th Ave.
Sterling, CO 80751
(970) 522-7121
<http://www.easterncoloradoservices.org/>

(10)
Envision
1050 37th Street
Evans, CO 80620
(970) 339-5360
<http://www.envisionco.org/>

(11)
Foothills Gateway
301 Skyway Drive
Fort Collins, CO 80525
(970) 226-2345
<http://www.foothillsgateway.org/>

(12)
Horizons Specialized Services
405 Oak

Steamboat Springs, CO 80477
(970) 879-4466

<http://www.horizonsnwc.org/>

(13)

Imagine!

1400 Dixon Avenue

Lafayette, CO 80026

(303) 665-7789

<http://www.imaginecolorado.org/>

(14)

Strive

950 Grand Avenue

Grand Junction, CO 81502

(970) 243-3702

<http://www.strivecolorado.org/>

(15)

Mountain Valley Developmental Services

700 Mount Sopris Drive

Glenwood Springs, CO 81602

(970) 945-2306

<http://www.mtnvalley.org/home0.aspx>

(16)

North Metro Community Services

1001 West 124th Ave.

Westminster, CO 80234

(303) 252-7199

or (303) 457-1001

<http://www.nmetro.org/>

(17)

Southeastern Developmental Services

1111 South Fourth Street

Lamar, CO 81052

(719) 336-3244

<http://www.sdscdb.com/>

(18)

Southern Colorado Developmental Services

1205 Congress Drive

Trinidad, CO 81082

(719) 846-4409

(19)

Starpoint

700 South 8th Street

Canon City, CO 81215

(719) 275-1616

<http://www.starpointco.com/>

(20)

The Resource Exchange

418 South Weber

Colorado Springs, CO 80903

(719) 380-1100

<http://www.tre.org/>

Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS)

Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services (CDASS) is a Health First Colorado benefit that allows consumers to manage their attendant services. CDASS uses the term “attendant,” though people use many other words, such as “aide,” “personal care assistant” and “homemaker.” In CDASS, the participant can:

- Hire attendants, even friends and family, based on qualifications that the participant sets.
- Train, supervise and fire your attendants.
- Decide when and where you receive services.
- Set wages for your attendants, within your monthly budget.
- Choose someone the participant trusts, like a family member or friend (an authorized representative), to help you manage the program.

CDASS is a service delivery option for individuals enrolled in the HCBS-EBD, HCBS-SCI and the HCBS-MI waiver programs at this time. People apply for CDASS by contacting their Single Entry Point.

In CDASS, Health First Colorado funds are set aside for the participant to control, instead of paying a home health agency or personal care agency to provide the participant’s attendant care. The participant’s single entry point case manager determines his or her “individual monthly allocation” based on how much Health First Colorado has paid for the participant’s attendant services in the past or by the participant’s current service plan. After the participant and/or his or her authorized representative complete training and enroll in the services, the participant and/or the authorized representative will be responsible for managing these funds to meet the participant’s needs.

Some important requirements:

- The participant must be eligible for HCBS-EBD, HCBS-SCI, or HCBS-MI waivers.
- The participant must demonstrate a need for attendant support.
- The participant and/or an authorized representative must be able to direct your care.

CDASS allows participants to direct certain services provided only by nurses or certified nurse aides due to the exemption of the Nurse Practice Act. Attendants can be most anyone, including spouses, friends, family members and neighbors. Participants are not required to hire nurses, CNA’s or other certified medical staff to perform their care tasks.

If a participant cannot manage the paperwork and or budgeting, they may assign an authorized representative to handle that part of the program. If an individual, due to their mental disability, needs an authorized representative to help direct their care, that is allowed too, although the authorized representative cannot be a paid attendant for the individual.

Attendants under CDASS can help a participant with a wide variety of tasks outside the model of traditional home health care if the participant can budget their allocation in a way to include those tasks. These tasks may include household tasks such as cleaning, grocery shopping, running errands, helping with physical child care.

Each CDASS participant receives training in budgeting, hiring and supervising attendants, creating care plans, and scheduling attendants before starting the program.

The CDASS funds are administered by a state contracted fiscal agent. Participants can choose among three fiscal agents.

Current information about CDASS can be found at the following link:

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/consumer-directed-attendant-support-services>

In-Home Support Services (IHSS)

IHSS includes health maintenance activities, support for activities of daily living or instrumental activities of daily living, personal care service and homemaker services. Additionally, the core independent living skills will be provided. They are a) cross-disability peer counseling, b) information and referral services, c) independent living skills training, and d) individual and systems advocacy.

To allow recipients of HCBS-EBD and families of children served under the Children's HCBS waiver to select and direct their in-home support services. This is similar to CDASS, but without the responsibility of hiring attendants. Under IHSS, the participants cannot set the wages of their attendants.

In-Home Support Services:

- IHSS is provided by an Attendant, under the direction of an Eligible Consumer, a parent or guardian of a child, or an Authorized Representative.
- The Attendant must be employed by an In-Home Support Services Agency.
- IHSS include health maintenance activities, support for activities of daily living or

instrumental activities of daily living, personal care services and homemaker services.

- A consumer or parent or Authorized Representative can choose the IHSS Agency.
- An Attendant of the consumer's choice can be hired by the Agency to provide services to the consumer, or the Agency can provide an Attendant from their pool of available workers, as long as the consumer agrees.
- IHSS Agencies must provide 24-hour back-up services, seven days per week, at any time a scheduled Attendant is not available.
- Agencies must contract with or employ a health professional (RN or Licensed Physician) to provide training, review treatment plans and to answer medical questions.

Eligibility & Enrollment:

- Clients must be eligible for the HCBS-EBD Waiver or the HCBS Children's Waiver. Children must be actively enrolled in the Children's Waiver program.
- A client must have a statement from the primary care or treating physician indicating that he/she has sound judgment and the ability to direct his or her own care, the eligible child's parent has sound judgment and the ability to direct the child's care, or the person has an Authorized Representative.
- Eligible Clients must be willing to participate.

Clients apply for the program by contacting their SEP case manager, or their Children's HCBS case manager.

Medicaid Buy-In

Medicaid Buy-In Programs for People with Disabilities were developed as a result of the Colorado Health Care Affordability Act. Health First Colorado's Medicaid Buy-In Programs are available to working adults with disabilities and to children with disabilities.

- For the adult program, The participant must be between 16 and 64 years old,
 - Must be employed,
 - Must have a qualifying disability. The [Social Security Administration \(SSA\) listings](#) describes what disabilities qualify, and
 - Income must be below 450% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). For example, you can make about \$4,523 a month and qualify.
-
- For the child program, there must be a child under the age of 19,
 - The child must have a qualifying disability. The Social Security Administration

- (SSA) listings describes what disabilities qualify, and
- The family income must be below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). For example, a family of four making about \$6,150 a month may qualify

Not all income is counted, and participants pay a premium for Health First Colorado based upon their income.

To apply, participants must complete a Health First Colorado application.

More information about the Medicaid Buy-in programs is available at this link:
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/medicaidbuyinprograms>

Health First Colorado Appeals

Any adverse Health First Colorado decision can be appealed, however there are timeline that must be strictly adhered to. Each Health First Colorado decision is accompanied by a notice of your appeal rights, and states how long you have to appeal.

Appealing a decision is easy. You simply write a letter stating why you disagree with the decision made, and send it to the Office of Administrative Courts (OAC).

Once you send your appeal, you will get a notice setting your case for a hearing. Once your case is set for a hearing (often months away), you should start preparing for your hearing. You need to collect documents, and prepare to have witnesses to testify.

What Kind of Evidence Will I Need for the Hearing?

You may testify at the hearing. You may also bring witnesses to the hearing who know about the facts and issues involved in the case. If there are documents, such as letters, contracts, business records, or medical records that help prove your case, bring the original and at least three copies to the hearing. You may also bring photographs or other items that relate to your case that you want the judge to consider. Documents, photographs, records, and reports can be considered by the Judge if permitted by the by the Colorado Rules of Evidence.

You must often provide copies of all documents you plan to use in your hearing to the other side before the hearing. If you do not do this the judge may not consider those records or reports that were not provided to the other side. Be sure to follow all prehearing orders issued by the judge.

You can subpoena witnesses and records for your hearing. You can fill out the

subpoena form and have it signed by the clerk at the OAC. Then you must have an adult who is not a part of your case serve the subpoena on the person you want at your hearing, or the person who is supposed to provide records. You must arrange to pay required fees, including mileage, and have someone else serve the subpoena at least 48 hours before the hearing, not counting weekends and holidays. You can also obtain records through formal discovery.

Is It OK to Bring Letters Instead of Witnesses?

A written statement by a witness who is not present at the hearing is usually not allowed. It is important to have your witnesses present at the hearing to testify and to provide the medical records and documents that support your appeal to the judge at the hearing.

What If I Can't Be There On The Day Set For The Hearing?

If you cannot attend the hearing on the date and time shown, you must contact the other side and OAC as soon as you know of the problem. Contact the other side to see if they will agree to change the hearing date. If they agree, you can call OAC and get a new hearing date.

If the other side does not agree, contact OAC immediately. You can ask the judge for an extension of time to begin the hearing, (that is, for a new hearing date). The sooner you make your request, the more likely it will be granted.

If you do not show up for your hearing your appeal will be denied, so it is very important to try to change the date of the hearing if you cannot attend.

What Will My Hearing Be Like?

Your hearing will be very similar to a trial in court, with witnesses, and exhibits presented by all parties. An attorney may represent the other side to your case. You may be represented by an attorney or you may appear and represent yourself. If you represent yourself, you must be familiar with the Colorado Rules of Evidence. The Judge must remain neutral, and cannot represent you.

It is up to you to decide whether you will hire an attorney. OAC cannot appoint one for you. You may choose to represent yourself, but an attorney may be better able to present your case. You can also have an advocate represent you during your hearing. If you want an advocate to represent you, you must contact advocacy agencies early. If you are too close to your hearing date, they will be unable to help you.

You should arrive at the place where your hearing will be held before your scheduled hearing so that you and any witnesses may be seated in the hearing room.

The judge may tape-record the hearing, or there may be a court reporter present to take down everything that is said at the hearing. This is important because the tape-recorded record, or the record taken by the court reporter, may be necessary if anyone wants to appeal the judge's decision.

When the hearing begins, the judge may ask each side what the issues are and what each side intends to prove. Each side then can introduce relevant evidence to prove its case. Evidence can include testimony taken under oath or documents such as medical reports.

Each side is then allowed to call witnesses, who will take an oath to tell the truth. You may call witnesses and you may testify yourself. If you call witnesses, you may ask them questions about the facts of your case (direct examination). After you are finished asking questions, the lawyer for the other side will ask questions (cross-examination). You may then ask more questions about matters brought up by the other side (redirect).

Either side may object to documents, and the documents will not be considered unless they comply with the Colorado Rules of Evidence. The judge will decide whether to allow documents into evidence.

If you testify, the judge may ask some questions. You also can make a statement. Then the other side will ask you questions (cross-examination). You then will have a chance to make another statement to respond to the questions asked by the other party.

After each side has presented its case, rebuttal witnesses may be called. Rebuttal witnesses may only testify to issues already brought up by the other side. Few hearings actually involve rebuttal witnesses.

After all testimony has been heard and the documents received, the judge may allow each side to make a closing argument. Closing arguments can only address facts brought out in testimony of the witnesses or in exhibits received into evidence. Closing argument is not a chance to testify and you may not mention things that were not received in evidence. Sometimes the judge may allow the parties to make a closing argument in writing after the hearing.

Before the hearing closes, you must submit all the evidence you want the judge to consider. You can find forms and contact information on the OAC website at this link: <https://www.colorado.gov/oac/oac-form-links>

Child Health Plan Plus

Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) is low-cost health insurance for Colorado's uninsured children and pregnant women. CHP+ is public health insurance for children and pregnant women who earn too much to qualify for Health First Colorado, but cannot afford private health insurance.

CHP+ is not as comprehensive as Health First Colorado for children, but still very good insurance.

Eligibility is based on income and family size. To see if you may qualify, determine your family size and household income. Family size is the number of all people in your household that are related. Unborn children are also included in your family size.

You can deduct certain expenses from your income. If you pay child care or elder care costs, medical expenses, dental expenses, child support payments, alimony payments, or health insurance premiums, you can subtract how much you pay in one month from your monthly gross income.

To learn more about CHP+ visit the Child Health Plan Plus website at this link: www.cchp.org

Medicare Assistance Programs

If you are eligible for Medicare, but are having difficulty paying your Medicare premiums, there are two programs that can help you. The programs are called Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) or Special Low income Medicare Beneficiaries (SLIMB).

Qualified Medicare Beneficiary

State Health First Colorado programs now pay Medicare premiums, deductibles and co-insurance for Medicare recipients with limited income and resources. These individuals are called Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMB).

Health First Colorado Will Pay:

- ▶ Monthly premiums for Medicare Part B.
- ▶ Medicare deductibles (the yearly deductible for Part B Medicare services such

as office visits, lab, X-ray services and the Part A deductible if you are hospitalized)

- ▶ Medicare co-insurance (the 20% per service charge which you have to pay for most medical services)

Health First Colorado will only pay for medical services that are benefits of Medicare. Prescriptions are not a benefit of the QMB program. Health First Colorado and Medicare combined, will automatically pay for monthly premiums, co- insurance and deductibles of any Medicare service.

To Qualify for QMB you must:

- ▶ Be currently eligible for Medicare "hospital insurance" (Part A)
- ▶ Individuals who have income at or below the percentage of federal poverty level for the family size as mandated by federal regulations.
- ▶ Income is anything which can be used to purchase food, clothing or shelter. Some examples include wages, social security, pensions, child support and unemployment benefits.
- ▶ Have resources below \$8,100 for individuals and \$12,910 for couples

Special Low income Medicare Beneficiaries

This program provides payment of the Medicare Part B premium for individuals or couples whose income is greater than 100% of poverty level and/or less than 110% of poverty level. The benefit received by this group is the payment of the Medicare Part B premium only.

Eligibility Criteria:

- ▶ Must be entitled to Medicare Part A
- ▶ Income greater than 100% of poverty but less than 120% of poverty
- ▶ The SLIMB income limits include the applicable unearned income disregard. If the individual is employed, or his/her spouse is employed, the employed individual is entitled to receive the \$65.00 plus ½ disregard of earned income before it is determined if the individual meets the income limit.
- ▶ Resources are limited to \$8,100.00 for an individual and \$12,910.00 for a couple.
- ▶ The SLIMB benefits can be retroactive three months prior to the date of application.

Apply for both programs at your county department of social or human services.

Vocational Rehabilitation

Vocational Rehabilitation can assist people with disabilities with obtaining training, equipment, counseling and job coaching to assist them in becoming employed. Vocational Rehabilitation can help people with all types of disabilities. Youth with disabilities can benefit from vocational rehabilitation services as soon as they are available to start working, or as they plan to attend college.

Vocational rehabilitation can assist no matter what the career aspiration is for the individual with a disability, from being a homemaker to a business owner to a rocket scientist and everything in between, vocational rehabilitation can help a disabled person achieve their dreams. Vocational Rehabilitation can assist with everything from books and tuition, to home medications, transportation, uniforms, equipment, training, supplies and the like. They can pay for most everything necessary to help a disabled person obtain and maintain a job.

Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Offices

Alamosa Office
305 Murphy Drive, Unit B
Alamosa, Colorado 81101
(719) 589-5158

Aurora Office
12510 East Iliff Avenue, Suite 303
Aurora, Colorado 80014
(303) 671-4160

Boulder Office
4875 Pearl East Circle, Suite 301
Boulder, Colorado 80301
(303) 444-2816

Cañon City Office
3224 Independence Road
Cañon City, Colorado 81212
(719) 275-7408 Ext 119

Colorado Springs Office
1365 Garden of the Gods Rd, Suite 250
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80907
(719) 635-3585

Craig Office
50 College Drive
Craig, Colorado 81625
(970) 824-9671

Montrose Satellite Office @ Delta
Workforce Center
206 Ute Street
Delta, Colorado 81416
(970) 874-5781

Denver-metro Office
2211 W Evans
Denver, Colorado 80223
(303) 866-2500, (877) 243-2823

Durango Office
160 Rock Point Drive, Suite A
Durango, Colorado 81301
(970) 247-3161

Fort Collins Office
2850 McClelland Drive, Suite 2000
Fort Collins, Colorado 80525
(970) 207-6464

Fort Morgan Office
426 Ensign Street
Fort Morgan, Colorado 80701
(970) 867-9401 Ext. 105

Frisco Office
602 Galena
Frisco, Colorado 80443
(970) 668-0234

Glenwood Springs Office
51027 Highway 6 & 24, #173
Glenwood Springs, Colorado 81601
(970) 945-1042

Golden Office
3500 Illinois St, Suite 1400
Golden, Colorado 80401
(303) 866-4121

Grand Junction Office
222 South 6th Street, Suite 215
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501
(970) 248-7103

Greeley Office
822 7th Street, Suite 350
Greeley, Colorado 80631
(970) 353-5409

Greenwood Village Office
6000 Greenwood Plaza Blvd, Suite 105
Greenwood Village, Colorado 80111
(303) 843-4300

Lamar Office
1006 South Main Street
Lamar, Colorado 81052
(719) 336-7712

Limon Office
825 Second Street
Limon, Colorado 80828
(719) 775-8819

Longmont Office
351 Coffman St, Suite 216
Longmont, Colorado 80501
(303) 776-6878

Montrose Office
504 N 1st Street
Montrose, Colorado 81401
(970) 249-4468

Northglenn Office
11990 Grant Street, Suite 201
Northglenn, Colorado 80233
(303) 866-2110

Pueblo Office
720 North Main, Suite 320
Pueblo, Colorado 81003
(719) 544-1406

Salida Office
448 E. First St., Ste 216
Salida, Colorado 81201
(719) 530-2585

Steamboat Springs Office
345 Anglers Drive, Building E, Suite C
Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80488
(970) 871-4853

Sterling Office
100 College Avenue, Walker Hall, Room 1
Sterling, Colorado 80751
(970) 522-3737

Trinidad Office
140 North Commercial
Trinidad, Colorado 81082
(719) 220-4354

Administrative Offices
633 17th Street, Suite 1501
Denver, Colorado 80202
(303) 318-8571

Independent Living Centers

Independent Living Centers (ILC) promote a philosophy of independent living (IL). This includes consumer control, peer support, self help, self-determination, equal access, and individual and system advocacy. ILCs help to maximize the leadership, empowerment, independence, and productivity of individuals with significant disabilities, and to promote and maximize the integration and full inclusion of individuals with significant disabilities into the mainstream of American society.

ILCs are consumer-driven and community-based private, nonprofit agencies. Each provides an array of independent living services for people with disabilities, including but not limited to visual impairments, hearing impairments, physical disabilities, psychiatric disabilities and cognitive disabilities. Each Independent Living Center is mandated by federal law to provide the following core services:

- Information and referral
- Individual and systems advocacy
- Independent living skills training
- Cross disability peer counseling

The independent living centers may also provide other services, such as:

- Counseling
- Housing
- Rehabilitation technology
- Mobility training
- Interpreter and reader services
- Personal assistance services
- Community resource guides and directories
- Transportation
- Consumer information programs

Other services are also available that may be necessary to improve the ability of an individual with a significant disability to function, continue functioning, or move toward functioning independently in the family or community or to continue in employment.

Independent Living Center Locations

Atlantis Community, Inc.

201 South Cherokee
Denver, Colorado 80223
(303) 733-9324

www.atlantiscommunity.org

Adams (shared), Arapahoe, Clear Creek,
Denver, Douglas, Elbert, and Jefferson
(shared)

Center for Disabilities

1304 Berkley Avenue
Pueblo, Colorado 81004
(719) 546-1271

<http://www.ilcpueblo.org/>

Alamosa Satellite Office

P. O. Box 1292
Alamosa, CO 81101
(719) 568-7954

Canon City Satellite Office

105 N. 10th St.
Canon City, CO 81212
(719) 251-5002
Alamosa, Baca, Bent, Conejos, Costilla,
Crowley, Custer, Fremont, Huerfano,
Kiowa, Las Animas, Otero, Prowers,
Pueblo, Rio Grande, and Saguache

Center for Independence
740 Gunnison
Grand Junction, Colorado 84501
(970) 241-0315
<http://cfigj.org/>

17 North 6th Street, Suite C 10
Montrose, Colorado 81401
(970) 249-3783

520 S. Third Street, Room 36
Carbondale, Colorado 81623
(970) 510-5456
Chaffee, Delta, Eagle, Garfield,
Gunnison, Hinsdale, Lake, Mesa,
Montrose, Ouray, Pitkin, and San Miguel

Center for People with Disabilities

1675 Range St.
Boulder, Colorado 80301
(303) 442-8662
<http://www.cpwd-ilc.org>
615 North Main
Longmont, Colorado 80501
(303) 772-3250

25 Garden Center, Suite 1
Broomfield, Colorado 80020
(303) 772-3250

10351 Grant Street
Thornton, Colorado 80229
(303) 790-1390
Adams ([shared](#)), Boulder, Broomfield,
Gilpin, and Jefferson ([shared](#))

The Independence Center

729 S. Tejon Street
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903
(719) 471-8181
<http://www.theindependencecenter.org/>
Aspen Mine Center
166 E. Bennett Avenue
Cripple Creek, Colorado 80813
(719) 471-8181 x140

Community Outreach Center

328 10th Street
Calhan, Colorado 80808
(719) 471-8181 x140
Cheyenne, El Paso, Kit Carson,
Lincoln, Park, and Teller

[Disabled Resource Services](#)

1017 Robertson, # B
Fort Collins, Colorado 80524
(970) 482-2700

<http://www.disabledresourceservices.org>

118 E. 29th Street, Suite C
Loveland, Colorado 80538
(970) 667-0816
Jackson and Larimer

[Connections for Independent Living](#)

1331 8th Avenue
Greeley, Colorado 80631
(970) 352-8682

<http://www.connectionsforindependentliving.org>

Fort Morgan Satellite Office

423 Main Street, Ste 500
Fort Morgan, CO 80701
(970) 867-0297

Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick,
Washington, Weld, and Yuma

[North West Colorado Center for Independence](#)

1306 Lincoln Avenue, Suite A
Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80487
(970) 871-4838

<http://www.nwcci.org/>

Moffat County Satellite Office – Craig
50 College Drive, Room 115
Craig, CO 81625

Summit County Satellite Office – Dillon
325 Lake Dillon Dr., #201
Dillon, CO 80435

Grand County Satellite Office – Granby
365 East Agate Avenue, #B
Granby, CO 80446
Grand, Moffat, Rio Blanco, Routt, and
Summit

[Southwest Center for Independence](#)

3473 Main Avenue, #23
Durango, Colorado 81301
(970) 259-1672

<https://swindependence.org/>

2409 East Empire Street
Cortez, Colorado 81321
(970) 570-8001
Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata,
Montezuma, and San Juan

Disability Advocacy and Support Organizations

Ability Connection Colorado

801 Yosemite Street

Denver , CO , 80230

(303) 691-9339

<http://www.abilityconnectioncolorado.org>

ACCO provides inclusive education, pathways to employment, and statewide family support programs to create opportunities and sustainable change for families across Colorado.

Access and Ability

218 N 2nd St

LaSalle, CO 80645

(970) 737-9031

www.accessandability.org

Provides one-on-one advocacy services, training, referral and service coordination for people with disabilities and their families in Weld, Eastern Larimer, Northern Adams, and Eastern Boulder counties.

ADAPT

201 S Cherokee

Denver, CO 80223

303-733-9324

<http://www.adapt.org>

Advocacy organization supporting integration and community living for people with disabilities.

Arc of Colorado

1580 Logan Street, Suite 730

Denver, CO 80203

303-864-9334

<http://www.thearcofco.org/>

Support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

[see list of statewide Arc chapters at the end of the list of organizations]

Assistive Technology Partners

Department of Rehabilitation Medicine
University of Colorado Health Sciences Center

224 5th Street Hub, Campus Box 180,

Denver, CO 80204

(303) 315-1280

<http://www.assistivetechpartners.org>

Assistive technology resources for people with disabilities of all ages, including adaptive equipment, wheelchair seating evaluations, and adaptive technology.

Autism Society of Colorado

550 S. Wadsworth Boulevard, Ste 100

Lakewood , CO , 80226

(720) 214-0794

(800) 265-6273

<http://www.autismcolorado.org>

Support for family members of children and adults on the spectrum.

Brain Injury Association of Colorado

4200 W. Conejos Place, Suite 524

Denver, CO , 80204

(303) 355-9969

(800) 955-2443 (in CO only)

<http://www.biaincolorado.org>

Support and advocacy for individuals with brain injuries.

Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

1575 Sherman Street, Garden Level
Denver, CO 80203

720-457-3679 (VP/voice)

303-866-4824 (voice)

www.ccdhh.com

Provides resources to Deaf, Deafblind, and hard of hearing individuals, and legal interpreter services.

Colorado Spina Bifida Association

P.O. Box 22994

Denver, CO, 80222

(303) 797-7870

<http://www.coloradospinabifida.org>

Support and advocacy for individuals with spina bifida.

Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition

1385 S. Colorado Blvd., Suite 610-A

Denver, CO. 80222

(303) 8/39-1775

<http://ccdconline.org>

Advocacy for people with all types of disabilities and legal representation in ADA matters.

DBTAC Rocky Mountain ADA Center

3630 Sinton Road

Suite 103

Colorado Springs, CO, 80907

(719) 444-0268 (V/TTY)

(800) 949-4232 (V/TTY)

<http://www.adainformation.org>

Technical assistance with ADA issues.

Denver Metro Fair Housing Center

3280 Downing St., Ste B

Denver, CO 80205

720-279-4291

<http://www.dmfhc.org/>

Provides advocacy and legal representation in cases of housing discrimination

Domestic Violence Initiative for People with Disabilities

PO Box 300535

Denver, CO 80203

(303) 839-5510

(877) 839-5510

<http://www.dviforwomen.org/>

Domestic violence advocacy for abused women, men and children with disabilities.

Dove

190 E 9th Ave # 370

Denver, CO 80203

(303) 831-7874

<http://www.deafdove.org/>

Advocacy services for abused deaf women and children.

Easter Seals Colorado

5755 W. Alameda Avenue

Lakewood, CO, 80226

(303) 233-1666 (V/TTY)

(800) 875-4732

<http://www.eastersealscolorado.org>

Services for people with disabilities.

El Grupo Vida

P.O. Box 11096
Denver, CO 80211
Tel. 303-904-6073

<http://elgrupovida.org/>

Support for Spanish language families who have children with disabilities.

EMPOWER Colorado (Mental Health)

801 Yosemite Street
Denver , CO , 80230
(866) 213-4631

<http://www.EMPOWERcolorado.com>

Support for parents of children with mental health conditions.

Epilepsy Foundation of Colorado, Inc.

234 Columbine Street, Suite 333
Denver , CO , 80206-4711
(303) 377-9774
(888) 378-9779 (in CO)

<http://www.epilepsycolorado.org>

Support for individuals with seizure disorders.

Family Voices Colorado

450 Lincoln Street
Denver , CO , 80203
(303) 733-3000

<http://www.familyvoicesco.org>

Health care advocacy for children with disabilities

Guardianship Alliance of Colorado

801 Yosemite Street
Denver, CO 80230
303-228-5382

<http://guardianshipallianceofcolorado.org/>

Guardianship information and training for family members of adults with disabilities.

Hands and Voices

PO Box 3093
Boulder CO 80307
(303) 492-6283

<http://www.handsandvoices.org/>

Support for parents of children with deafness and hearing loss.

Disability Law Colorado

455 Sherman Street, Suite 130
Denver, CO , 80203
(303) 722-0300
(800) 288-1376 (in CO only)

<http://www.thelegalcenter.org>

Legal assistance for people with disabilities.

Medicaid Mental Health Ombudsman Program

303-830-3560 (Denver Metro)
1-877-435-7123

<http://www.coloradohealthpartnerships.com/members/mbr-ombudsman.html>

The Ombudsman for Medicaid Managed Care will help file grievances and appeals, will help solve problems with the Medicaid Behavioral Health Organization (BHO). The Ombudsman is independent from all of the health care plans. The Ombudsman customer service number is

Mile High Down Syndrome Association, Inc.

2121 S. Oneida Street, Suite 60
Denver , CO , 80224
(303) 797-1699
<http://www.mhdsa.org>

Support for individuals with Down syndrome.

NAMI Colorado
1100 Fillmore Street
Denver , CO , 80206-3334
(303) 321-3104
<http://www.namicolorado.org>

Support for individuals with mental health conditions and their families.

National Council on Disability
1331 F Street, NW, Suite 850
Washington, DC 20004
202-272-2004
<http://www.ncd.gov>

Federal agency advocating for people with disabilities, advocacy interest in the rights of disabled parents.

National Federation of the Blind – Colorado
2233 W. Shepperd Avenue
Littleton, CO 80120
Phone: (303) 778-1130
<http://www.nfbco.org/>

Advocacy and support for blind individuals

Parent to Parent of Colorado
801 Yosemite Street
Denver , CO , 80230
(877) 472-7201
<http://www.p2p-co.org>

Statewide support for parents of children with all types of disabilities.

PEAK Parent Center
611 N. Weber, Suite 200
Colorado Springs , CO , 80903
(719) 531-9400
(800) 284-0251
(719) 531-9403 (TTY)
<http://www.peakparent.org>

Advocacy and training for parents in the education system.

Arc Units: Provide individual advocacy for individuals with developmental or intellectual disabilities in a variety of systems.

Advocacy Denver
(serves the City and County of Denver)
1905 Sherman Street, Suite 300
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 831-7733

The Arc of Adams County
(serves Adams County)
641 E. 112th
Northglenn, CO 80233
(303) 428-0310

The Arc of Aurora
(serves the City of Aurora)
1342 South Chambers Road
Aurora, CO 80017
(720) 213-1420

The Arc-Jefferson, Clear Creek & Gilpin Counties
(serves Jefferson, Clear Creek and Gilpin

counties)
13949 West Colfax Ave
Denver West Building 1, Suite 150
Lakewood, CO 80401
(303) 232-1338

The Arc of Larimer County
(serves Larimer County)
1121 W Prospect Rd
Fort Collins, CO 80526
(970) 204-6991

The Arc of Mesa County
(serves Mesa County and other Western
Slope communities)
P.O Box 2292
Grand Junction, CO 81502
(970) 245-5775

The Arc of Arapahoe & Douglas Counties
(serves Arapahoe and Douglas counties
except for the City of Aurora)
6538 S Racine Circle
Centennial, CO 80111
(303) 220-9228

**The Association for Community Living in
Boulder County**
(serves Boulder and Broomfield counties)
Atlas Valley
2770 Dagny Way, Suite #202
Lafayette, CO 80026
(303) 527-0888

The Arc of the Pikes Peak Region
(serves El Paso, Park, and Teller
counties)
12 N. Meade Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80918
(719) 471-4800

The Arc of Pueblo

(serves Pueblo and Huerfano counties)
2705 Vinewood Lane
Pueblo, CO 81005
(719) 545-5845

The Arc of Southwest Colorado
(Serves La Plata, Montezuma, Archuleta,
Dolores, and San Juan Counties)
1199 Main Ave, Suite 216
Durango, CO 81301
Phone: 970-422-2271

The Arc of Weld County
(serves Weld County)
5312 W 9th Street Drive
Suite 150
Greeley, CO 80634
(970) 353-5219

The Arc of West Central Colorado
(serves Delta, Montrose, Gunnison,
Hinsdale,
San Miguel and Ouray Counties)
521 E 19th Street
Delta, CO 81416
(970) 200-7163

Sign Language Interpreter and CART Agencies

To request interpreters and other accommodations for clients for court, attorneys and parties should make requests via the ADA Information button on the State Judicial website. There accommodation requests for court hearings may be made.

Interpreter requests for court appointed attorney and client meetings may be made through the Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Professional Sign Language Interpreting,
Inc. (PSLI)
P.O. Box 33557
Northglenn, CO 80233
303-920-7330 (v/tty)
303-920-7335 (fax)
psli@psli.net(e-mail)
www.pсли.net

Colorado Springs, CO 80938
719-599-4517 (v/tty/vp)
1-866-599-4517 (v/tty/vp)
719-531-7841 (fax)
719-474-7154 (emergency pager)
sln@signlanguagenetwork.com(e-mail)
7194747154@archwireless.net(pager)
www.signlanguagenetwork.com

Purple Language Services
1391 Speer Blvd., #200
Denver, CO 80246
303-321-6720 (tty)
303-321-6772 (voice)
303-757-7135 (fax)
purpledenvr@purple.us
www.purple.us

Access 2 Sign Language, Inc.
P.O. Box 15433
Colorado Springs, CO 80935
719-302-5869 (v/Ojo VP)
719-219-9483 (fax)
2serveu@mya2sl.com

24 Hour Sign Language Services
14885 WCR 74
Eaton, CO 80615
1-888-811-2424 (v)
970-690-5284 (cell)
970-454-9018 (fax)
24hrs1s@24hrs1s.com(pager)
www.24hrs1s.com

Colorado Sign Language Services
727 Beacon Ridge Dr.
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
719-337-3310 (v/tty)
719-337-3310 (Gary's cell)
719-650-5885 (Doris' cell)
csls97@hotmail.com(e-mail)

Sign Language Network, Inc. (SLN)
P. O. Box 25102.

Deaf Communication Services
Fort Collins, CO
970-430-6878
866-596-5165 (fax)
www.deafcommunicationservices.com

Connections for Independent Living
1024 9th Ave., Suite E
Greeley, CO 80634
970-352-8682 (v/tty)
970-353-8058 (fax)
1-800-887-5828 (v/tty)

Center for Independence
1600 Ute Ave., #100
Grand Junction, CO 81501
970-241-0315 (v/tty)

Independent Interpreters of Northern
Colorado
930 Butte Pass Dr.
Fort Collins CO 80526
Phone: 970-308-5508
<http://info@aslinterpretercolorado.com>

Birnbaum Interpreting Service – Video
Remote Interpreting
8555 16th street
Suite 400
Silver Spring MD 20735
Fax: 301-565-0366
<http://www.bisworld.com/index.php/services/video-remote-interpreting>

Pika Sign Language Interpreting Services
4524 Winona Court
Denver CO 80212
Phone: 720-383-7452
Fax: 866-434-0384
Website: <http://pikasignlanguage.com>

Soaring Hands Interpreting Services,
LLC
13560 Uinta Street
Thornton CO 80602
Phone: 720-432-4804
<http://www.soaringhands.com>

The Interpreting Agency
PO Box 746453
Arvada CO 80006
VP: 303-357-0928
Phone: 303-357-0928
<http://tiapro.com>

CART Providers

Debbie Easterly
926 South Ivory Circle, Apt. A
Aurora CO
Phone: 303-915-3731
Fax: 720-535-5351
Email: debeast@rocketmail.com

Visible Voices, Inc.
Claudette Mondragon
1452 S. Pitkin Circle
Aurora CO 80017
Phone: 720-838-3737
Email: claudettemondragon@hotmail.com
Website: <http://www.visiblevoices.com>

Social Security Benefits 101

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

Social security is a social insurance program with benefits based on an individual's work history and can provide auxiliary benefits for a wage earner's spouse and children. Social security is funded by a payroll tax (under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act, or FICA) paid on wages in equal amounts by employer and employee (6.2 percent each) for all persons working in a job covered by social security.

Social security is also referred to as "Title II" and "OASDI" (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance). Financial need is not a factor in eligibility determinations, and so no eligibility rules limit how much other income or resources an individual can have. Social security benefits are linked to Medicare eligibility.

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), is awarded to disabled people who have a sufficient work history. The amount of benefits is based upon the amount earned by the individual through work. The maximum benefit is \$2639.

To receive SSDI an individual must be determined to be disabled (see section below). Children, disabled adult children, dependent parents, and some stepchildren can receive benefits when a parent receives SSDI in some circumstances.,

Supplemental Security Income -- SSI

Supplemental Security Income, or SSI, in contrast, is a means-tested program based on financial need. It provides cash assistance to people who are at least 65, blind, or disabled and who have very low income and limited assets. The SSI program is funded by general tax revenues, not by payroll taxes.

SSI has extensive financial eligibility rules, and in 2017 the maximum federal benefit rate is \$735 per month for an individual and \$1,103 per month for an eligible couple. With limited exceptions, on citizens are eligible for SSI. A work history is not required. SSI is also referred to as "Title XVI." In Colorado anyone receiving SSI is automatically eligible for Medicaid (Health First Colorado). SSI does not have any dependent benefits.

Who is disabled?

The adult standards for determining disability for SSDI, SSI, and Medicaid are the same.

However, the SSDI and SSI disability definition differs from the definitions used in other programs, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act, state disability insurance, or veterans benefits.

The Social Security Act defines disability as an “inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months.”

The combined effect of a person’s impairments must be “of such severity that he is not only unable to do his previous work but cannot, considering his age, education, and work experience, engage in any other kind of substantial gainful work which exists in the national economy.” The agency has adopted a five-step sequential evaluation process to determine if someone meets the disability standard under the Social Security Act. Once a disability determination has been made, the Social Security Administration conducts periodic reviews to determine if there has been medical improvement, thus making the individual ineligible for benefits.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The ADA prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in employment, State and local government, public accommodations, commercial facilities, transportation, and telecommunications. It also applies to the United States Congress.

To be protected by the ADA, one must have a disability or have a relationship or association with an individual with a disability. An individual with a disability is defined by the ADA as a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, a person who has a history or record of such an impairment, or a person who is perceived by others as having such an impairment. The ADA does not specifically name all of the impairments that are covered.

ADA Title I: Employment

Title I requires employers with 15 or more employees to provide qualified individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to benefit from the full range of employment-related opportunities available to others. For example, it prohibits discrimination in recruitment, hiring, promotions, training, pay, social activities, and other privileges of employment. It restricts questions that can be asked about an applicant's disability before a job offer is made, and it requires that employers make reasonable accommodation to the known physical or mental limitations of otherwise qualified individuals with disabilities, unless it results in undue hardship. Religious entities with 15 or more employees are covered under title I.

Title I complaints must be filed with the U. S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) within 180 days of the date of discrimination, or 300 days if the charge is filed with a designated State or local fair employment practice agency. Individuals may file a lawsuit in Federal court only after they receive a "right-to-sue" letter from the EEOC.

Charges of employment discrimination on the basis of disability may be filed at any U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission field office. Field offices are located in 50 cities throughout the U.S. and are listed in most telephone directories under "U.S. Government." For the appropriate EEOC field office in your geographic area, contact:

(800) 669-4000 (voice)
(800) 669-6820 (TTY)

www.eeoc.gov

Publication and information on EEOC-enforced laws may be obtained by calling:

(800) 669-3362 (voice)

(800) 800-3302 (TTY)

For information on how to accommodate a specific individual with a disability, contact the Job Accommodation Network at:

(800) 526-7234 (voice/TTY)

<http://janweb.icdi.wvu.edu/english>

ADA Title II: State and Local Government Activities

Title II covers all activities of State and local governments regardless of the government entity's size or receipt of Federal funding. Title II requires that State and local governments give

people with disabilities an equal opportunity to benefit from all of their programs, services, and activities (e.g. public education, employment, transportation, recreation, health care, social services, courts, voting, and town meetings).

State and local governments are required to follow specific architectural standards in the new construction and alteration of their buildings. They also must relocate programs or otherwise provide access in inaccessible older buildings, and communicate effectively with people who have hearing, vision, or speech disabilities. Public entities are not required to take actions that would result in undue financial and administrative burdens. They are required to make reasonable modifications to policies, practices, and procedures where necessary to avoid discrimination, unless they can demonstrate that doing so would fundamentally alter the nature of the service, program, or activity being provided.

Complaints of title II violations may be filed with the Department of Justice within 180 days of the date of discrimination. In certain situations, cases may be referred to a mediation program sponsored by the Department. The Department may bring a lawsuit where it has investigated a matter and has been unable to resolve violations. For more information, contact:

Disability Rights Section
Civil Rights Division
U.S. Department of Justice

P.O. Box 66738
Washington, D.C. 20035-6738

www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm

(800) 514-0301 (voice)
(800) 514-0383 (TTY)

Title II may also be enforced through private lawsuits in Federal court. It is not necessary to file a complaint with the Department of Justice (DOJ) or any other Federal agency, or to receive a "right-to-sue" letter, before going to court.

ADA Title II: Public Transportation

The transportation provisions of title II cover public transportation services, such as city buses and public rail transit (e.g. subways, commuter rails, Amtrak). Public transportation authorities may not discriminate against people with disabilities in the provision of their services. They must comply with requirements for accessibility in newly purchased vehicles, make good faith efforts to purchase or lease accessible used buses, remanufacture buses in an accessible manner, and, unless it would result in an undue burden, provide paratransit where they operate fixed-route bus or rail systems. Paratransit is a service where individuals who are unable to use the regular transit system independently (because of a physical or mental impairment) are picked up and dropped off at their destinations. Questions and complaints about public transportation should be directed to:

Federal Transit Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

www.fta.dot.gov/office/civ.htm

(888) 446-4511 (voice/relay)
(202) 366-2285 (voice)
(202) 366-0153 (TTY)

ADA Title III: Public Accommodations

Title III covers businesses and nonprofit service providers that are public

accommodations, privately operated entities offering certain types of courses and examinations, privately operated transportation, and commercial facilities. Public accommodations are private entities who own, lease, lease to, or operate facilities such as restaurants, retail stores, hotels, movie theaters, private schools, convention centers, doctors' offices, homeless shelters, transportation depots, zoos, funeral homes, day care centers, and recreation facilities including sports stadiums and fitness clubs. Transportation services provided by private entities are also covered by title III.

Public accommodations must comply with basic nondiscrimination requirements that prohibit exclusion, segregation, and unequal treatment. They also must comply with specific requirements related to architectural standards for new and altered buildings; reasonable modifications to policies, practices, and procedures; effective communication with people with hearing, vision, or speech disabilities; and other access requirements. Additionally, public accommodations must remove barriers in existing buildings where it is easy to do so without much difficulty or expense, given the public accommodation's resources.

Courses and examinations related to professional, educational, or trade-related applications, licensing, certifications, or credentialing must be provided in a place and manner accessible to people with disabilities, or alternative accessible arrangements must be offered.

Commercial facilities, such as factories and warehouses, must comply with the ADA's architectural standards for new construction and alterations.

Complaints of title III violations may be filed with the Department of Justice. In certain situations, cases may be referred to a mediation program sponsored by the Department. The Department is authorized to bring a lawsuit where there is a pattern or practice of discrimination in violation of title III, or where an act of discrimination raises an issue of general public importance. Title III may also be enforced through private lawsuits. It is not necessary to file a complaint with the Department of Justice (or any Federal agency), or to receive a "right-to-sue" letter, before going to court. For more information, contact:

Disability Rights Section
Civil Rights Division
U.S. Department of Justice
P.O. Box 66738
Washington, D.C. 20035-6738
www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm
(800) 514-0301 (voice)
(800) 514-0383 (TTY)

ADA Title IV: Telecommunications Relay Services

Title IV addresses telephone and television access for people with hearing and speech disabilities. It requires common carriers (telephone companies) to establish interstate and intrastate telecommunications relay services (TRS) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TRS enables callers with hearing and speech disabilities who use telecommunications devices for the deaf (TDDs), which are also known as teletypewriters (TTYs), and callers who use voice telephones to communicate with each other through a third party communications assistant. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has set minimum standards for TRS services. Title IV also requires closed captioning of Federally funded public service announcements. For more information about TRS, contact the FCC at:

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

www.fcc.gov/cib/dro
(888) 225-5322 (Voice)
(888) 835-5322 (TTY)

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq.

Implementing Regulations:

- 29 CFR Parts 1630, 1602 (Title I, EEOC)
- 28 CFR Part 35 (Title II, Department of Justice)
- 49 CFR Parts 27, 37, 38 (Title II, III, Department of Transportation)
- 28 CFR Part 36 (Title III, Department of Justice)
- 47 CFR §§ 64.601 et seq. (Title IV, FCC)

Fair Housing Act

The Fair Housing Act, as amended in 1988, prohibits housing discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, and national origin. Its coverage includes private housing, housing that receives Federal financial assistance, and State and local government housing. It is unlawful to discriminate in any aspect of selling or renting housing or to deny a dwelling to a buyer or renter because of the disability of that individual, an individual associated with the buyer or renter, or an individual who intends to live in the residence. Other covered activities include, for example, financing, zoning practices, new construction design, and advertising.

The Fair Housing Act requires owners of housing facilities to make reasonable exceptions in their policies and operations to afford people with disabilities equal housing opportunities. For example, a landlord with a "no pets" policy may be required to grant an exception to this rule and allow an individual who is blind to keep a guide dog in the residence. The Fair Housing Act also requires landlords to allow tenants with disabilities to make reasonable access-related modifications to their private living space, as well as to common use spaces. (The landlord is not required to pay for the changes.) The Act further requires that new multifamily housing with four or more units be designed and built to allow access for persons with disabilities. This includes accessible common use areas, doors that are wide enough for wheelchairs, kitchens and bathrooms that allow a person using a wheelchair to maneuver, and other adaptable features within the units.

Complaints of Fair Housing Act violations may be filed with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. For more information or to file a complaint, contact:

Office of Program Compliance and Disability Rights
Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th Street, S.W. (Room 5242)
Washington, D.C. 20140

www.hud.gov/fhe/fheo.html

(800) 669-9777 (voice)
(800) 927-9275 (TTY)

Additionally, the Department of Justice can file cases involving a pattern or practice of discrimination. The Fair Housing Act may also be enforced through private lawsuits.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (formerly called P.L. 94-142 or the Education for all Handicapped Children Act of 1975) requires public schools to make available to all eligible children with disabilities a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment appropriate to their individual needs.

IDEA requires public school systems to develop appropriate Individualized Education Programs (IEP's) for each child. The specific special education and related services outlined in each IEP reflect the individualized needs of each student.

IDEA also mandates that particular procedures be followed in the development of the IEP. Each student's IEP must be developed by a team of knowledgeable persons and

must be at least reviewed annually. The team includes the child's teacher; the parents, subject to certain limited exceptions; the child, if determined appropriate; an agency representative who is qualified to provide or supervise the provision of special education; and other individuals at the parents' or agency's discretion.

If parents disagree with the proposed IEP, they can request a due process hearing and a review from the State educational agency if applicable in that state. They also can appeal the State agency's decision to State or Federal court. For more information, contact:

Office of Special Education Programs
U.S. Department of Education
330 C Street, S.W. (Room 3086)
Washington, D.C. 20202

www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/OSEP.index.html

(202) 205-8824 (voice/relay)

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq.
Implementing Regulation:
34 CFR Part 300