

Core Waiver

Overview

The Core waiver is one of DSHS Developmental Disabilities Administration's five federal Home and Community-Based waivers. This waiver offers residential habilitation services to individuals who are at immediate risk of losing their community residential setting. Individuals must have an identified health and welfare need for residential services that cannot be met by the Basic Plus waiver.

Services Include:

- Assistive Technology.
- Community Engagement.
- Community Inclusion.
- Community Transition.
- Environmental Adaptations.
- Extermination of Bed Bugs.
- Individual or Group Supported Employment.
- Individualized Technical Assistance.
- Occupational, Speech and Physical Therapies (for adults, when not covered under state plan benefits).
- Residential Habilitation.
- Respite.
- Remote Support.
- Risk Assessment.
- Skilled Nursing (over age 21).
- Specialized Equipment and Supplies.
- Stabilization Services – Specialized Habilitation.
- Stabilization Services – Staff and Family Consultation.
- Specialized Habilitation.
- Supported Parenting.
- Transportation.
- Wellness Education.



Eligibility

DDA clients who:

- Meet Social Security Disability criteria.
- Meet Institutional Level of Care criteria.
- Meet the income and resource standards for Apple Health of Washington. (Client's income and resources, not family unit's income and resources).
- Are a U.S. citizen or federally qualified legal resident.
- Have a DDA Assessment and Person-Centered Service Plan that describes how the participant's health, safety and habilitation needs will be met in the community.

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Budget

The capacity for the Core waiver is up to 5,702 individuals. In state FY23, 4,601 clients were served on the Core waiver at an average cost of \$16,352 per month.

Waivers are limited to the average cost of an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities for any combination of services necessary to meet the assessed client need. DDA cannot deny services to people on the waiver due to lack of funding, so waiver costs are carefully monitored.

Rates

Waiver services are delivered by many different contracted service providers whose rates are dependent upon the service offered. Service rates can be found at: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/management-services-division/office-rates-management>.

Oversight

External

- DSHS Residential Care Services Division.
- Department of Children, Youth, and Families.
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.
- National Core Indicators Project.
- Office of the Washington State Auditor.
- Washington State Department of Health.

Internal

- DDA Office of Program and Policy Development.
- DDA Office of Quality, Compliance and Training.
- DDA Office of Residential, Employment and Day Services.
- DDA Office of Provider Compliance and Transition Quality Assurance.



Authority

Federal funding under section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act, Home and Community Based Services Waivers and state funding.

Chapter 71A RCW, Developmental Disabilities

Chapter 388-845 WAC, DDA Home and Community Based Services Waivers.

Partners

- Individuals receiving services.
- Families of program participants.
- DSHS Aging and Long-Term Support Administration.
- Department of Children, Youth and Families.
- The Arc of Washington.
- DD Ombuds .
- Disability Rights Washington.
- Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council.
- Health Care Authority.
- Informing Families.