

CSB DD Waiver Information Session

April 24, 2024

Session Questions & Answers

- 1. I receive multiple ways to fill out the waitlist forms annually. Which method is better?**
 - a. The CSB sends out a generic mailing once per year to individuals on the DD waiver waiting list. This is to gather updated demographic information and remind individuals to reach out to CSB if there have been any changes in their support system or needs. The “Documentation of Individual Choice form” is included in this mailing and must be signed and returned once per year to remain on the waiting list.
 - b. DBHDS also sends an electronic request to update information via an online portal. However, the CSB needs the information in our records.
 - c. If you choose to complete forms with the CSB, you would not need to complete them with DBHDS as the CSB updates the DBHDS portal.

- 2. My child is on the waitlist, but I do not hear from them regularly. Why?**
 - a. Fairfax County CSB supports more than 3000 individuals on the Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Waitlist. We do our best to contact individuals at least annually. We encourage you to reach out to your Support Coordinator if you have changes to status or an unmet need, and we can assist you with updates and possible resources.

- 3. How do we get emails from the CSB on DD Waiver Updates?**
 - a. Please email us at CSBDDWaiverSupport@fairfaxcounty.gov with your specific questions.
 - b. Also, ensure that your contact information is current by reaching out to your Support Coordinator.

- 4. Suggestion for newsletter and breaking news?**
 - a. Please check our website for regular updates: [Developmental Disabilities Waivers Updates | Community Services Board \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#)

- 5. Where would one find out the Priority Status and/or Critical Needs Score for their child is on the waitlist?**
 - a. Please call your child’s assigned Support Coordinator and they can assist you with this information. If you do not know who that is- please call 703-324-4400.
 - b. You may also email us at CSBDDWaiverSupport@fairfaxcounty.gov.

- 6. What are the significant actions that we should be aware of now that our child is 18 and graduating high school?**
 - a. Upon turning 18, it would be very helpful to start the process of applying for Social Security Benefits and Medicaid.

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- 7. Can you explain why a person on the waitlist, getting older, would move to a lower priority?**
 - a. The DD Waiver Waitlist and slot allocation is not based on a timeline or age of the individual/caregiver, but on the needs of the individual. As an individual's needs could change- so does their status on the wait list.
 - b. IDEA- DBHDS has offered a Priority 1 status for young adults transitioning out of school who are seeking more independence. This status eligibility is for 21-27 years of age.

- 8. Question about the differences between the 3 waivers and how one gets a specific waiver?**
 - a. Each waiver has a unique menu of services. You can use the link below to review the specific information regarding the waivers and their specific set of services.
 - b. <https://dbhds.virginia.gov/assets/MyLifeMyCommunity/Publications-and-Partner-Documents/Navigating%20the%20DD%20Waivers.pdf>
 - c. DBHDS allocates the specific waiver to each individual who is awarded a waiver slot.

- 9. What needs are required to be a Priority 1 status?**
 - a. Priority One Status shall include individuals who require a waiver service within one year and are determined to meet specific criteria:
 - b. An immediate jeopardy exists to the health and safety of the individual due to the unpaid primary caregiver having a chronic or long-term physical or psychiatric condition that currently significantly limits the ability of the primary caregiver to care for the individual; or there are no other unpaid caregivers available to provide supports.

- 10. To get a waiver slot from p1 WL- is it true that you need to be ready to make use of the waiver services such as a group home within a certain time period?**
 - a. Per DBHDS, you must be willing to utilize the waiver within 30 days of being allocated the slot. Once notified by the CSB that you are being offered a waiver slot- either a Community Living (CL) or Family and Individual Supports (FIS)- you have 15 days to confirm acceptance. Ideally, waiver services should be initiated within 30 days of accepting the waiver slot and meeting with your assigned SC.
 - b. A CL slot will be allocated to individuals who demonstrate an immediate need for a residential service (either Group Home or Sponsored Residential). These services should also be initiated in a timely manner.

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11. Some self-service programs don't work with waiver- true or false?

- a. True, some Self-Directed Services do not have a waiver equivalent service.
- b. If an individual is on the DD Waiver Waitlist and is utilizing CSB funded supports for Day & Employment, Self-Directed Services, FAST-Tran Transportation, Drop-In Residential Supports, or Respite- they will not be able to keep locally funded services once they get the waiver. It may be possible for certain services, like a day and employment program to convert to waiver funding without changing the provider as the provider is already a licensed DD Waiver Provider.

12. How easy is it to go from the Family & Individual Supports (FIS) waiver to a Community Living (CL) waiver?

- a. Reserve Slots may be used to transition from an FIS slot to a CL slot, and the process is facilitated by the Support Coordinator as needed. Attempts to fully utilize the services in the current waiver must be documented prior to a request being submitted.
- b. To be considered for a reserve slot, there must be a documented change in the individual's assessed support needs that requires a move to another waiver to access a needed service not offered in the current waiver.

13. Will the waiver cover \$5000 a month to cover a specific group home in VA Beach? Could it go through this CSB or one in VA Beach?

- a. The congregate residential service (also known as "group home") under the CL waiver can be used for any DD Waiver licensed group home provider in Virginia. If an individual selects a group home anywhere in the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Support Coordinator can assist with coordinating services with the selected provider. The waiver slot along with the case management service will transfer to the CSB supporting the area in which the individual resides.

14. If my child is a Priority 2 or Priority 3- how do I update his case?

- a. Please contact your child's direct Support Coordinator and ask to review and/or complete a Waitlist Update.
- b. If you do not know who your child's support coordinator is- you can call 703-324-4400 and ask.
- c. You may also email us at CSBDDWaiverSupport@fairfaxcounty.gov.

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15. Are resources available to provide services for those who just received a waiver or those receiving one soon? Is there a provider capacity issue?

- a. If you receive locally funded services or support- those will continue until your waiver is initiated.
- b. Once the waiver has been awarded, an assigned Support Coordinator will contact you to facilitate the process of identifying appropriate services and support to get those in place.
- c. For individuals waiting for a waiver- there may be limited, locally funded services available to assist individuals. Additionally, there may be other Fairfax County Agencies or community-based support available. Please reach out to your Support Coordinator if you need assistance.
- d. DBHDS reports that they are actively working on increasing provider capacity, especially as the number of individuals coming into service increases.

16. How do you get a waiver if there is an emergency?

- a. If there is an emergency need for a waiver slot you should contact your monitoring Support Coordinator immediately. The Support Coordinator will assess the emergency and if it meets criteria for submission (i.e. death of a primary caregiver or risk of immediate homelessness), the Support Coordinator will complete an Emergency Slot Request form for submission to DBHDS for their consideration.

17. What happens if I relocate within Virginia, but moved outside of Fairfax County?

- a. If you or your child are on the waitlist- please contact your Support Coordinator and we can assist you with transferring, you/your child to the CSB in that area and getting established on their waitlist.
- b. If you or your child has a DD Waiver- please work with your Support Coordinator to initiate the process to transfer your waiver case management services or other waiver services to that respective area.
- c. As a parent- there would be no disruption of services if you chose to move out of Fairfax County and the individual with the DD Waiver wants to remain in Fairfax County.

18. Will the waivers still be awarded in order of severity of need?

- a. Yes, DBHDS prioritizes allocation of waiver based on the severity of need.

19. My child needs a mentor. Where do I go?

- a. This resource was shared by a family member during the information session: Healing Hands www.healingmindslc.me
- b. The Arc of Northern Virginia may also have some helpful resources, [Home - The Arc of Northern Virginia \(thearcofnova.org\)](http://Home-The Arc of Northern Virginia (thearcofnova.org))

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20. Can we apply for Medicaid/SSI before we get the waiver?

- a. Yes, and it is strongly encouraged for when your child turns 18. Eligibility for those benefits is more complex when the child is a minor.

21. How long does someone wait to get the waiver?

- a. Unfortunately, there is no time limit to waiting. DD Waivers are based on severity of need and not on the length of time you've been on the waitlist. We encourage you to reach out to your assigned support coordinator whenever things change to ensure your waitlist documentation is updated to date to reflect the individual's needs.

22. Can you have ccc+ waiver and be on the DD waiver waitlist?

- a. Yes, you can have the CCC+ waiver and be on the DD Waiver waitlist.

23. Are there any social media groups available related to DD Waiver?

- a. We are not aware of any at this time but encourage you to explore the Arc of Northern Virginia for such resources.
- b. The Fairfax CSB does have Facebook and X (Twitter) accounts which may be informative for you.