



What you need to know about services for people with intellectual/developmental disorders (I/DD)

We are sending you this flyer to share important information about I/DD services through Alliance Health and the NC Innovations Waiver.

What is the Innovations Waiver?

The NC Innovations Waiver is designed to meet the needs of people with intellectual/developmental disorders (I/DD) who prefer to get long-term care services and supports in their home or community rather than in an institutional setting.

Some common intellectual/developmental disorders include:

- Autism
- Down syndrome
- Cerebral palsy
- Intellectual disability
- Chromosomal genetic disorders



Please note, there is a waitlist for this funding. This waitlist is called the registry of unmet needs (RUN).

How is the Innovations Waiver funded?

The Innovations Waiver is funded by Medicaid, but only the income of the person with the disability is considered, not the family income. You do not have to have Medicaid to apply for the waitlist. A person of any age or with any type of insurance can be reviewed to be added to the Innovations waitlist.

What services are covered by the Innovations Waiver?

The services a person can get through the waiver depend on their needs and funding, and the provider resources, services and supports that may be available. Some examples of services that may be covered include:

- Learning new skills to live in the community
- Residential supports
- Day-time activities
- Trainings
- Behavior support
- Respite care
- Employment support
- Supported living programs
- Assistive technology (such as screen readers, wheelchairs, or voice recognition)
- Changes (modifications) to the home or a vehicle

How do I apply for the Innovations Waiver?

1. Send documents to the long-term services team (LTS)

First you must send documentation to Alliance's long-term services team. The documents must be from a medical provider or licensed psychologist (please note that not all school psychologists are licensed). The information must include:

- Qualifying I/DD diagnosis or related condition
- Adaptive (functional assessment) scores – these are usually included in the evaluation
- IQ scores
- Guardianship (if applicable)

I/DD services are based on the adaptive functional assessment scores. This assessment shows how the I/DD affects daily life. It is a standard assessment of a person's ability to do daily tasks and shows level of need for supports.

Any documentation sent should be recent and reflect current ability. This usually means within the last few years. If older documentation is sent it must include current adaptive scores to show the level of need. Please send in your documentation as soon as possible to get a waitlist date.

To submit documentation to the LTS team, you can:

- Email: customerservicesupport@AllianceHealthPlan.org
- Fax: 919-651-8679

2. Talk to an LTS team member

Once the long-term services team gets your documents, a team member will call you. During this call they may want some more information such as:

- Guardianship or supported decision-making
- Whether there are any immediate needs
- How I/DD affects daily function
- What kinds of supports are needed
- Any other information that may be helpful

I applied for Innovations Waiver services, now what?

1. Alliance review for eligibility

Alliance Health will review the information you submit to the LTS team including medical/psychological evaluations, diagnosis and testing scores.

If the Alliance team finds you are eligible for (able to get) I/DD services, you will be added to the NC Innovations Waiver waitlist. Please note that the waiver has a many year waitlist. If you are found to be eligible for I/DD services, you will get a letter in the mail letting you know you have been added to the Innovations waitlist.

If you are on the waitlist, you can ask for I/DD services. To get started with services, contact providers or talk to your care manager.

2. Service Supports

The type of services you can get depends on whether you are enrolled in Medicaid.

I am enrolled with Medicaid through Alliance

As a Medicaid recipient you can receive 1915(i) or other supportive services once approved. 1915(i) are enhanced services such as supported employment, community living support and respite. Before 1915(i) services can be approved:

- 1) Your Tailored Care manager will do a 1915(i) assessment to talk about what services you need. If you are enrolled with Medicaid but are not eligible for Tailored Care Management, Alliance Member and Recipient Services can help.
- 2) The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will review this assessment and approve your enhanced services.

There are also other Medicaid supports available based on need. Some examples are applied behavioral analysis for members with autism spectrum disorder, long term community supports for day activities, and residential supports.

I am NOT enrolled with Medicaid through Alliance

If you have private insurance or are uninsured you will be added to the Innovations waitlist and can ask for state-funded services.

If you are found eligible for I/DD services and are currently on a Standard Plan, learn more about whether you qualify for Medicaid Direct for enhanced services: ncmedicaidplan.gov/en/submit-forms-online or contact ncmedicaidombudsman.org.

If you have questions or need help applying for the waiver, please call Alliance Member and Recipient Services at 800-510-9132. There are I/DD experts who can help.