

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Autism Waiver

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Further information about the Autism Waiver program is available at www.dhmh.state.md.us/mma/waiverprograms under "Autism Waiver Fact Sheet."

To apply for the Autism Waiver program, contact the "autism coordinator" at your child's school district. A list of contacts can be found at the Family Networks website at www.family-networks.org/hcbs_contacts.cfm.

For more information on topics discussed in this fact sheet, contact

The Arc of Frederick County.
Phone: 301-663-0909
www.arcfc.org



The **Autism Waiver** program, also known as the "Medicaid Home and Community Based Waiver for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder," provides community services to children with autism. Eligibility is jointly determined by the Maryland State Department of Education and Maryland Medicaid.

Benefits: Recipients are eligible, depending on their **Plan of Care**, for **Medicaid healthcare coverage**, respite care, environmental accessibility adaptations, family training, individual support services, day habilitation or supported employment, residential habilitation, targeted case management, health-related early intervention services, school-based health-related services, and specialty mental health services.

Eligibility Criteria: Recipients must be between ages 1 and 21 and meet other technical requirements. They must have a qualifying DSM-IV diagnosis of Autism Disorder (299.00) or PDD, NOS (Atypical Autism) (299.80). They must currently receive early intervention services or be enrolled in a qualified special education program and have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) with over 15 hours of service or an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP). Recipients must meet a technical ICF-MR institutional level of care as determined by the program. Recipients must also meet financial requirements:

- Countable resources **of child** must be less than \$2,000.
- Countable income **of child** must be less than 3 times the limit of SSI (Supplemental Security Income), which for 2009 is \$2,022/month.
- The family's financial status is not considered in determining eligibility; a child may have private health insurance and still receive coverage.

There is a limit to the number of children in Maryland who can receive coverage under the Autism Waiver program. There is currently a waiting list to participate in the Autism Waiver. To get on the waiting list, also known as the registry, contact Ilva Richardson at 301-644-5274.