

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

Autism Waiver

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Further information about the Autism Waiver program is available at <https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/waiverprograms>

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

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The **Autism Waiver** program, also known as the “Medicaid Home and Community Based Waiver for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder,” provides home and community services to children with autism. Autism Waiver Services uses the home and community environment as a learning experience. 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 consultation, individual support services, day habilitation or supported employment, residential habilitation, targeted case management, health-related early intervention services, therapeutic integration, 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 current diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (within the last 3 years by a qualified diagnostician). They must have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) with at least 15 hours per week of special education/related services. Recipients must meet financial eligibility for Medical Assistance.

- Countable assets **of child** must be less than \$2,000.
- Monthly income **of child** must not exceed 300% of Supplemental Security Income (SSI).
- 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, call 1-866-417-3480.