

Waiver Alert

News You Need to Know

New Service Definitions

Developmental Disabilities

NC Innovations and (B-3) Deinstitutionalization (B3 DI) Participants
February 2011



What is changing?

The North Carolina Innovations Waiver was revised to include new services. Home Supports will be discontinued March 31, 2011. It will be replaced April 1, 2011, by three new services: Intensive In-Home Supports, In-Home Skill Building, and Personal Care Services. This change also applies to the (B-3) Deinstitutionalization Services Array (B3 DI). Information sessions about the upcoming service changes have been held for family members, provider agencies, agencies with choice, employers of record, and managing employers.

Why was this change made?

This change was made by the Division of Medical Assistance (DMA) and approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) as part of the planned future expansion of North Carolina Innovations to other Local Management Entities. This service array is similar to the service array in the other NC 1915 (c) waiver for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities, the Community Alternatives Program for individuals with Mental Retardation (Intellectual)/Developmental Disability (CAP/MR/IDD).

When will this change be made?

This change will be effective April 1, 2011. Teams will work prior to that date to convert all Person Centered Plans (PCPs) to the new services.

How will this change be made?

Home Supports will be replaced in PCPs by one or more of the new services. Planning Teams will meet and determine which of the service(s) is/are most appropriate and include the new services in a PCP or PCP Revision. The PCP will be submitted to PBH Utilization Management for approval with implementation to be effective April 1, 2011. The Planning Team will consider the needs of the individual in making changes to the PCP.

Intensive In-Home Supports

Intensive In-Home Supports is a support service. It is available to individuals in their private home if the individual needs extensive supervision and support. Training, support and/or supervision are provided to assist the individual with positioning, intensive medical needs, elopement and/or behaviors that would result in injury to the individual or other people. The PCP includes a fading plan or a plan for obtaining assistive technology to reduce the amount of Intensive In-Home Supports. This service is only approved for individuals who have exceptional medical or behavioral support needs on their Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) assessment. The service must be approved by PBH Utilization Management every 90 days, and can only be provided in the individual's private home.

In-Home Skill Building

In-Home Skill Building is a habilitation service. It provides training that enables the individual to acquire and maintain skills, and to be more independent. In-Home Skill Building provides additional support to maintain the individual's life in the community. As the individual gains skills and becomes more independent, the individual should need fewer hours of this service. In-Home Skill Building consists of:

- Training and supporting the individual to develop and maintain personal relationships.
- Skill building to help the individual to learn community living skills, such as shopping, recreation, personal banking, grocery shopping, and other community activities.
- Training to help the individual learn therapeutic exercises, supervision of self-administration of medication, and other services that are essential to the individual's health at home, including transferring, ambulation, and using special mobility devices.
- Transporting the individual to activities where the individual is receiving this service.

Note: This service cannot be provided in the home of a direct support employee.

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Personal Care Services

Personal Care Services is a support service. Personal Care Services help the individual with eating, bathing, dressing, personal care, hygiene and other activities of daily living. Personal Care Services also help the individual maintain skills gained during training services. The service also includes housekeeping chores such as bed making, dusting and vacuuming, if these are incidental to the individual's care and are essential to the individual's health and welfare rather than the needs of the individual's family. Personal Care Services also include assistance with the monitoring of the individual's health and assisting the individual with transferring, walking, and use of special mobility devices.

Service Limitations

Each service definition includes the service limitations. All three services are Base Budget services and are subject to the Limits on Sets of Services.

Additional Information/Questions

The full service definitions for the new services are posted on the PBH website

<http://www.pbhsolutions.org/innovations>.

The Revised NC Innovations Individual/Family Guide, which was recently mailed to NC Innovations participants and their families, includes information about the new service array. An Innovations Operations Manual will be available for service implementation.

If you have further questions, please ask your Care Coordinator, the Provider Relations Manager, or call the PBH Access Department at 1-800-939-5911.