



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE FINANCE (DC MEDICAID)  
ELDERLY AND INDIVIDUALS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES (EPD)  
WAIVER PROGRAM**

**What is the EPD Waiver Program?**

The EPD waiver program is a Medicaid Waiver choice program for the elderly and individuals with physical disabilities who are able to safely receive supportive services in a home and community-based setting. The participant or authorized representative can choose a service provider from an available list of approved EPD Waiver Providers. A participant may elect to transfer from one service provider to a different service provider for any approved of service.

**Who is eligible for the EPD Waiver Program?**

- Must be a resident of the District of Columbia;
- Must be DC Medicaid eligible with income of 300% of SSI (less than \$2,130.00 per month in 2013);
- Must have less than \$4,00 in cash assets;
- Spousal income does not take away from a participant's eligibility for the EPD Waiver Program;
- Must require assistance to complete daily living activities such as (bathing, grooming, meal preparation, etc.);
- Must be elderly (65 years of age or older); or
- Must be 18 to 64 years old and diagnosed as having a physical disability.

**What are the approved services provided under the EPD Waiver Program?**

- **Case Management Services** – Case Managers screen and evaluate the participant to assess whether they are in need of EPD Waiver Services. Case Managers also help the participant to obtain services which support one's choice, independence, dignity, and confidentiality. A Case Manager assists and coordinates the services with the participant, family members, other waiver providers, medical personnel and non-waiver supports/resources.
- **Personal Care Aide Services** – Personal Care Aide (PCA) provides assistance with bathing, grooming, dressing, toileting, eating, and ambulating. This is a direct-care/hand-on service intended to support the furtherance of the following goals:
  - To provide necessary hands-on personal care assistance with the daily activities in order to maintain a participant in their home—with a home that is clean, sanitary and in safe condition; and
  - To encourage home-based care as a preferred and cost-effective alternative to institutional care.
- **Respite Services** – Respite Services may include companionship, supervision or assistance with activities of daily living for waiver participant in their home or a temporary place of residence in the temporary absence of the primary caregiver.

Respite Services may be provided in units of hours and/or days (maximum 480 hours with an Individual Service Plan year).

The participant must notify the case manager and direct care provider in advance when respite services are needed.

- **Homemaker Services** – Homemaker services include general household activities such as grocery shopping, routine housecleaning and meal preparation. Homemakers must maintain current certification as a home health aide. Homemaker services DO NOT provide any direct-care/hands-on personal care.
- **Chore Services** – Chore Aides provide one-time, non-medical household tasks, such as washing floors, windows, walls, trash removal and rearranging furniture in order to provide safe access and egress. Chore Aides DO NOT provide direct-care/hands-on personal care, meal preparation, grocery shopping, or respite services.
- **Personal Emergency Response Services (PERS)** – PERS is a system that summons assistance from a friend, relative, or an emergency services provider (police, fire, or ambulance). Each system is comprised of three basic units: (a) portable help button; (b) console or receiving base; and (c) response center. PERS IS NOT recommended for an individual who is unable to understand and/or demonstrates proper use of Personal Emergency Response Service (PERS) system.
- **Assisted Living Services** – The Assisted Living Service provides hands-on care in an assisted living residence of both a supportive and health related nature that is specific to the needs of elderly persons or persons with disabilities. Assisted Living services include 24-hour supervision; assistance with daily living and facilitating health care and other supportive services as required. This service DOES NOT include reimbursement for room and board expenditures.
- **Environmental Accessibility Adaptation Services (EAA)** –This service provides physical adaptations to the home that are necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the individual and/or increase independence in the home and without which the individual would be at risk of institutionalization. Allowable in-home modification include:
  - installations of ramps and stair climbers;
  - widening of doors to accommodate bathroom facilities to ensure safe use; and
  - installation of specialized electric and/or plumbing system to accommodate medical equipment and supplies.

EAA DOES NOT include carpeting, roof repair, or air conditioning. Individuals must first apply through the DC Department of Housing and Community Development's Handicap Accessibility Improvement Program.

**Who do I contact to receive more information about the EPD Waiver Program?**

**Department of Health Care Finance  
Office of Long Term Care  
Elderly and Persons with Physical Disabilities (EPD)  
One Judiciary Square – 441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Suite 900S  
Washington, DC 20001  
(202) 442-5988  
[www.dhcf.dc.gov](http://www.dhcf.dc.gov)**

**District of Columbia Office on Aging/Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)  
500 K Street, N.E.  
Washington DC 20002  
Office: (202) 724-5626  
Citywide: 311  
Toll Free (877) 919-ADRC (2372)  
[www.adrc.dc.gov](http://www.adrc.dc.gov)**