

FSW Overview

The FSW is the fifth Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver in Nebraska.

It is intended to provide support for the child and their family.

The FSW will serve up to 850 children with developmental disabilities who are:

- Ages birth to 21 years old;
- Eligible for DD services per Nebraska statute; and
- Meet level of care with a need level consistent with Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID).

Each FSW participant will receive a maximum annual budget of \$10,000.

FSW Funding Priorities

[Nebraska Revised Statute §68-1532](#) lists priorities for people who are eligible for the FSW.

The priorities for receiving funding are:

- 1) Children with disabilities and family units in crisis situations in which the child tends to self-harm or harm siblings and other family members.
- 2) Children with disabilities who are at risk for placement in juvenile detention centers, or other institutional settings, or out-of-home placements.
- 3) Children with disabilities whose primary caretakers are grandparents because no other family caregivers are available to provide care.
- 4) Families who have more than one child with disabilities living in the family home.
- 5) Based on date of application.

Initials to Know

DD
Developmental Disabilities

DDD
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities

FSW
Family Support Waiver

HCBS
Home and Community-Based Services

SC
Service Coordinator

For questions or to request a Service Coordinator:

Call toll free
877-667-6266

Email
DHHS.DDRRegistry@nebraska.gov

DHHS
Division of Developmental Disabilities

Nebraska State Office Building
301 Centennial Mall South
PO Box 98947
Lincoln, NE 68509-8947

Developmental Disabilities Services

Family Support Waiver (FSW)

Overview, Eligibility, & Funding Priorities

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

"Helping People Live Better Lives"

The DD Registry

The DD Registry is a list of eligible people waiting to receive services on a developmental disabilities (DD) waiver.

A person on the DD Registry must:

- Meet institutional level of care with a need level consistent with Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID) and
- Receive Medicaid or be under age 19 years and only not eligible due to parental income.

People on the DD Registry are waiting for DD waiver funding under a priority.

The other two DD waivers are:

- **Comprehensive Developmental Disabilities (CDD) Waiver**—When a person accepts an offer for the CDD Waiver, they are removed from the DD Registry. This is the DD waiver with the largest budget and service availability.
- **Developmental Disabilities Adult Day (DDAD) Waiver**—The DDAD Waiver is available only to people over age 21 years. It does not overlap with the FSW population.

When a person is under age 21 years old, they are considered waiting for the FSW in addition to the other DD waivers.

A person receiving the FSW will remain on the Registry waiting for the other waivers.

Other Benefits and Services

Any person eligible for Medicaid HCBS waiver services must apply for, and accept, any federal Medicaid benefits for which they may be eligible, and benefits from other funding sources within DHHS and other agencies, to the maximum extent possible.

This includes the Department of Education.

Funding Offers for the FSW

A person must be on the DD Registry waiting for DD waiver services to receive a FSW funding offer.



DDD contacts whomever is legally responsible for the person and offers a FSW slot. This waiver provides \$10,000 funding for the year.



The person must accept a FSW slot to become a participant and receive their \$10,000 budget.



A local Service Coordinator (SC) is assigned to the participant.



The SC helps the participant choose which services and providers to use to meet their needs.



The participant's SC completes a referral for any agency provider the participant is interested in working with.



The participant's SC helps any independent providers with enrollment.



The SC holds an intake person-centered meeting to identify FSW services and assign responsibility to chosen providers.



The SC completes service authorizations assigning funding to providers.



Providers can begin providing services once they have acknowledged the service authorization for services they are providing.

Service Coordinators

A Service Coordinator (SC) provides targeted case management and is available for all eligible people.

When a person receives any HCBS waiver, including the FSW, their SC helps plan and oversee waiver services.

The SC can help the person access other benefits and services. The SC can attend school Individual Educational Program (IEP) meetings when invited by a guardian. The guardian can ask the school to invite the SC.

FSW Services

A variety of services are available on the FSW:

- Assistive Technology
- Child Day Habilitation
- Community Integration
- Day Support
- Environmental Modification Assessment
- Family Caregiver Training
- Family and Peer Mentoring
- Home Modification
- Homemaker
- Independent Living
- Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)
- Respite
- Supported Family Living
- Transportation
- Vehicle Modification

See the *FSW Quick Guide* for short descriptions of each service.

Family Support Waiver information can be found in [Nebraska Revised Statute §§68-1530](#) to 68-1534.