

Important Initials to Know

DD

Developmental Disabilities

DHHS-DD

Division of Developmental
Disabilities

HCBS

Home and Community-
Based Services

SC

Service Coordination

VR

Vocational Rehabilitation

DHHS Division of Developmental Disabilities

Nebraska State Office Building, 3rd floor
301 Centennial Mall South
PO Box 98947
Lincoln, NE 68509-8947

Phone: 877-667-6266
Fax: 402-471-8792
E-mail: dhhs.developmentaldisabilities@nebraska.gov

DD Services Eligibility

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

"Helping People Live Better Lives"

What is a Developmental Disability?

As defined in [Nebraska Revised Statute 83-1205](#):

“Developmental disability shall mean a severe, chronic disability, including an intellectual disability, other than mental illness, which:

- (1) Is attributable to a mental or physical impairment unless the impairment is solely attributable to a severe emotional disturbance or persistent mental illness;
- (2) Is manifested before the age of twenty-two years;
- (3) Is likely to continue indefinitely;
- (4) Results in substantial functional limitations in one of each of the following areas of adaptive functioning:

- (a) Conceptual skills, including language, literacy, money, time, number concepts, and self-direction;
 - (b) Social skills, including interpersonal skills, social responsibility, self-esteem, gullibility, wariness, social problem solving, and the ability to follow laws and rules and to avoid being victimized; and
 - (c) Practical skills, including activities of daily living, personal care, occupational skills, healthcare, mobility, and the capacity for independent living; and
- (5) Reflects the individual’s need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, individualized supports, or other forms of assistance that are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated.

An individual from birth through the age of nine years inclusive who has a substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired condition may be considered to have a developmental disability without meeting three or more of the major life activities described in subdivision (4) of this section if the individual, without services and support, has a high probability of meeting those criteria later in life.”

Who is Eligible?

To be eligible for DD services, an applicant must:

- 1) Be a citizen of the United States of America or a qualified alien under the federal Immigration and Nationality Act and be lawfully present in the United States
- 2) Be a resident of the State of Nebraska
- 3) Have a developmental disability (DD)

What is Waiver Eligibility?

Being eligible for a Home & Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver is the second step. Being eligible for Medicaid assistance does not mean an applicant will automatically meet eligibility requirements for DD.

To be eligible for a Medicaid HCBS Waiver, an applicant must:

- 1) Submit an application via a Department-approved format;
- 2) Be eligible for Medicaid in accordance with 477 NAC;
- 3) Meet the definition of developmental disability, as determined by the Department in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. §83-1205;
- 4) Meet Institutional Level of Care criteria initially and annually thereafter;
- 5) Elect to receive Medicaid Home and Community-Based Waiver services as an alternative to institutional placement;
- 6) Have a physical health screen within the past 12 months and annually thereafter; and
- 7) Accept Service Coordination service.

Service Coordination

Upon request, Service Coordination (SC) is provided to all eligible individuals when all statutory and regulatory requirements are fulfilled. Acceptance of SC is required to receive other DD services.

Other Benefits and Services

All applicants eligible for DD funding must **apply for and accept** any federal Medicaid benefits for which they may be eligible and benefits from other funding sources within the Department and other agencies, to the maximum extent possible. This includes the Department of Education, specifically Vocational Rehabilitation Services with Nebraska VR.

How to Apply

Submit an application to DHHS-DD for eligibility to be determined. The application is located at www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov. Just fill out the application electronically!

Or you can complete, print, sign, and mail to DD Eligibility, PO Box 98947, Lincoln NE 68509-8947; scan and email to DHHS.DDEligibility@nebraska.gov; or fax to (402) 742-8384.

You can call DHHS-DD toll-free at (877) 667-6266 if you have questions or would like a paper application be mailed to you.

You can also go into any local DHHS office and ask for assistance.