

Community Integration

The service definition and limits outlined below do not include all details and requirements. For the service standards, limitations, provider types and qualifications, and reimbursement information, refer to the appropriate Medicaid HCBS DD Waiver.

Waiver Availability

Comprehensive Developmental Disabilities (CDD) Waiver
Developmental Disabilities Adult Day (DDAD) Waiver
Family Support Waiver (FSW)

NFOCUS Service Codes

Community Integration – Agency or Independent 9845

Service Definition

Community Integration is a habilitative service, which provides teaching of self-help, behavioral, socialization, and adaptive skills. Community Integration takes place in the community in a non-residential setting.

Conditions of Provision

- A. A participant chooses each service based on their needs.
 - 1. Services should increase independence and community integration; and
 - 2. The chosen waiver services and who provides them are documented in the participant's Individual Support Plan (ISP).
- B. Community Integration includes:
 - 1. Habilitative activities designed to increase independence and personal choice;
 - 2. Opportunities to make connections and interact with community members; and
 - 3. Assistance with activities of daily living, health maintenance, and supervision.
- C. Community Integration is a habilitative service and must include habilitation programs. Individual habilitation programs must be conducted, and data recorded each time the service is provided.
- D. Examples of Community Integration include but are not limited to:
 - 1. Teaching a participant how to join and participate in a community group, church group, book club, card club, or a fishing club;
 - 2. Teaching a participant how to go shopping, attend a concert, go out to eat, or attend a sporting event;
 - 3. Teaching a participant how to join and participate in volunteer activities, such as an animal shelter or Meals on Wheels;
 - 4. Teaching a participant how to get around the community by using public transportation or riding a bike.

- E. A portion of this service can be delivered virtually, which includes but is not limited to:
1. The participant's needs must be able to be met with verbal cueing and other support that can be provided virtually;
 2. Available to participants in the basic and intermediate funding tier;
 3. The majority of Community Integration provided each week must be provided in-person;
 4. The total combined hours for virtual supports may not exceed a weekly amount of 10 hours; and
 5. These 10 hours are included in the 35 hours per week cap of day services.
- F. Community Integration has the following limitations:
1. During Community Integration, a participant may not do paid or unpaid work for which others are typically paid, but can participate in volunteer activities and hobbies, which earn minimal money.
 2. During Community Integration, a provider cannot bill for non-integrated activities, such as van rides or going to empty parks, when there is little or no opportunity for interaction with community members.
 3. The majority, of the time billed in a week for Community Integration must occur in the community.
 4. A participant may receive Community Integration in combination with other day services, but the total combined hours cannot exceed 35 hours per week. A week is defined as 12:00 am Monday through 11:59 pm Sunday. Other day services are:
 - a. Adult Day;
 - b. Behavioral In-Home Habilitation;
 - c. Day Supports;
 - d. Medical In-Home Habilitation;
 - e. Prevocational;
 - f. Small Group Vocational Support;
 - g. Supported Employment – Individual;
 - h. Supported Employment – Follow-Along; and
 - i. Vocational Rehabilitation job seeking and job coaching.
 5. Community Integration cannot include any service or part of a service available through public education, including:
 - a. Programs in the participant's local school district, including after-school supervision and daytime services when school is not in session such as summer breaks, scheduled school holidays, and teacher in-service days;
 - b. During the school hours set by the local school district for the participant regardless of school chosen (public, private, or home); and
 - c. Educational service hours provided or available are included in the total combined day service hours of 35 hours per week.
 6. Participants receiving Community Integration cannot receive Child Day Habilitation.
 7. This service cannot overlap with, replace, or duplicate other similar services provided through Medicaid.
- G. Community Integration can be provided in the hospital setting when a participant is admitted for critical care.

1. Supports are designed to meet the needs of the participant while in a hospital setting and to assist for a smooth transition back to their home.
2. Supports include teaching skills that will help the participant to maintain their current level of independence, providing behavioral support as needed, and assistance with daily living activities that assist the participant with their treatment and recovery while in the hospital.
3. Supports do not include any health maintenance activities, treatments, procedures, medication administration, or practices, which must be done by hospital staff.
4. The person-centered service plan will be updated when this service is provided in a hospital setting and when the participant leaves the hospital.

Provider Requirements

The information outlined below does not include all provider requirements. It is intended to be general information about providers of this specific DD service.

- A. All providers of waiver services must:
 1. Be a Medicaid provider;
 2. Comply with all applicable Titles of the Nebraska Administrative Code and Nebraska State Statutes;
 3. Adhere to standards as described in the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care Service Provider Agreement;
 4. Complete DHHS trainings upon request; and
 5. Use universal precautions.
- B. Community Integration can be offered by a DD agency provider or independent provider.
 1. A DD agency provider is a company enrolled as a Medicaid provider and certified by DHHS to provide DD services and is responsible for:
 - a. Hiring and supervising employees who work with the participant;
 - b. Employing staff based on their qualifications, experience, and demonstrated abilities;
 - c. Providing training to ensure staff are qualified to provide the necessary level of care;
 - d. Agreeing to make training plans available to DHHS;
 - e. Ensure adequate availability and quality of service; and
 - f. Other administrative functions.
 2. A DD independent provider is a person or vendor enrolled as a Medicaid provider and employed by a participant.
 - a. The participant is responsible for hiring and supervising their provider.
- C. Community Integration can be self-directed.
- D. A relative of the participant, but not a guardian or other legally responsible person of the participant may provide Community Integration when they meet other requirements.

Rates

- A. Community Integration must be purchased within a participant's annual individual budget amount.
- B. Community Integration is reimbursed at an hourly rate.

- C. The cost of transportation is:
 - 1. Included in the rate during Community Integration;
 - 2. Not included in the rate to the site where Community Integration begins; and
 - 3. Not included in the rate from the site where Community Integration ends.

- D. DD Rates are listed on the [DD Provider webpage](#).
 - 1. Only one fee schedule is effective at a time.
 - 2. The start date is on each schedule; once a fee schedule is no longer valid an end date is added.