

## 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

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

### 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 that enhance social development. Community Integration provides an opportunity for the participant to practice skills taught in therapies, counseling sessions, or other settings to plan and participate in regularly scheduled community activities. 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 Person-Centered Plan (PCP).
- 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 1820 per year 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 1820 hours per year.
  5. Community Integration shall exclude any services available through public education programs funded under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
    - a. This includes services not otherwise available through public education 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 and/or scheduled school holidays, in-service days).
    - b. Services cannot be provided during the school hours set by the local school district.
    - c. Regular school hours and days apply to a child who receives home schooling.
  6. A Community Integration provider or provider staff must not provide Community Integration to individuals (18 years and older) and children (13 and younger) at the same time and location, unless approved by DDD Central Office. When Community Integration is provided to a child and adult at the same time and location, there must be documented approval in the PCP.
  7. Participants receiving Community Integration cannot receive Child Day Habilitation.
  8. 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 in 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 an 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. Community Integration may be provided by a relative or Legal Guardian, but not a Legally Responsible Individual.

## 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.