

Important Initials to Know

TBI Waiver

Traumatic Brain Injury
Waiver

DDD

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

*The DHHS division which
oversees the TBI Waiver.*

interRAI

Assessment tool used to
determine Nursing Facility
Level of Care

For information: [https://
interrai.org](https://interrai.org)

Tips for Assessment

When you are interviewed, keep in mind the interRAI is designed to assess a person for Nursing Facility Level of Care.

When you are being assessed, consider your current health status and ability to complete the tasks being asked about.

If you do not understand a question, tell the person completing the assessment. You can ask questions.

The person completing the interRAI is there to gather accurate and current information. This may include asking you to demonstrate specific tasks.

The assessment is completed based on your answers and any demonstrations.

DHHS Division of Developmental Disabilities

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

Phone: 877-667-6266
E-mail: dhhs.developmentaldisabilities@nebraska.gov

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Waiver

Assessment and Funding

NEBRASKA
Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

"Helping People Live Better Lives"

October 2023

Traumatic Brain Injury

A traumatic brain injury (TBI):

- Is a non-degenerative, non-congenital insult to the brain from an external mechanical force,
- May lead to permanent or temporary impairment of cognitive, physical, and psychosocial functions; and
- Has an associated diminished or altered state of consciousness at the time of diagnosis.

The TBI Waiver is not for acquired brain injury caused by strokes, tumors, or other non-traumatic causes.

The term TBI does not apply to brain injuries induced or caused by birth trauma.

A person must have a TBI diagnosis to be on the TBI Waiver.

Nursing Facility Level of Care

Nursing Facility Level of Care (NF-LOC) refers to the level of care needed by a person living in a nursing facility. Think about the cares a person receives when they live in a nursing facility.

NF-LOC is determined through:

- Activities of daily living;
- Risk factors;
- Medical treatment; and
- Cognition factors.

The interRAI Assessment

The interRAI is the assessment used to evaluate needs, strengths, and preferences for people living in a community environment.

The interRAI is a standardized and validated assessment that is recognized worldwide.

Nebraska uses the interRAI to determine eligibility and level of care for the TBI Waiver.

The interRAI looks at:

- Cognition;
- Communication and vision;
- Mood and behavior;
- Psychosocial well-being;
- Functional status;
- Continence;
- Disease diagnoses;
- Health conditions;
- Oral and nutritional status;
- Skin condition;
- Medications;
- Treatments and procedures;
- Responsibility;
- Social supports; and
- Environment.

Funding for Services

Medicaid HCBS waivers allow federal Medicaid funds and state funds, which would otherwise be used to provide services in institutional settings, to be used to pay for home and community-based services.

You must have active Medicaid and be eligible for the TBI Waiver to receive funding and access TBI Waiver services.

The TBI Waiver can serve up to 230 eligible people.

Once eligible and authorized, you will receive services:

- Your person-centered plan is created around the type of services you need to stay safely in your home.
- Funding is based on your person-center plan, so you must create a plan with your Service Coordinator before services can start.
- Your Service Coordinator will authorize your waiver services based on your plan.
- The interRAI assessment is completed annually to continue to meet eligibility requirements.

Nursing Facility Level of Care information is in Nebraska regulations at [471 NAC 44](#).