

Money



FOLLOWS THE PERSON

to Community Living



Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services

DADS Media Services 7P046 • April 2007 • Publication 200

Know your options

The Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services' (DADS) Money Follows the Person (MFP) policy allows Texans who are eligible for Medicaid and living in a nursing facility to choose an appropriate community setting and receive community services and supports.

How do I know if I qualify for services under the MFP policy?

You qualify for services if you receive Medicaid services, live in a nursing facility, and want to return to the community. Under MFP, if you meet the eligibility requirements for a certain community waiver program, you enter the services directly and are not placed on an interest list.

What happens if I leave the nursing facility before DADS approves me?

You must remain in the nursing facility until a DADS community services worker approves the move.

If you leave the nursing facility before you are approved, you will not receive community services, but your name can be placed on an interest list to receive community services at a later date.

What are waiver programs?

Waiver programs provide community-based services and supports to people who qualify for admission into a nursing facility or an ICF-MR/RC. Waivers are intended to be a cost-effective alternative to facility-based services.

What are some of the community living options under MFP?

Options include participating in one of the following DADS waiver programs:

- Community Based Alternatives (CBA) provides services to people age 21 or older who meet the eligibility requirements for living in a nursing facility. Services include nursing services, attendant services, medical supplies, therapy, home modifications, emergency response services, and adaptive aids.
- Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS) provides services to people of any age with a diagnosis of a related condition. Services include case management, nursing services, physical therapy, respite care, functional life skills training, and psychological services. CLASS is not available in every county.

- Consolidated Waiver Program (CWP) provides services to people of any age who are eligible for nursing facility care or services in an Intermediate Care Facility for Persons with Mental Retardation or a Related Condition (ICF-MR/RC). Services include nursing services, therapy, habilitation, attendant services, orientation and mobility services, home modifications, and emergency response. CWP is available only in Bexar County.
- Deaf Blind – Multiple Disabilities Program (DBMD) provides services to people who are age 18 or older, have deaf-blindness and another disability. Services are designed to increase independence and communication skills and include adaptive aids, behavior communication services, case management, environmental accessibility, habilitation, intervenor, orientation and mobility, occupational, physical and speech therapy, housekeeping, and nursing services.
- Medically Dependent Children Program (MDCP) provides services to children under the age of 21 who have medically complex needs. These services include respite, minor home modifications, and adaptive aids.

Are there other services to help a person move from the nursing facility to the community?

Yes. DADS either provides or coordinates with other agencies to provide a number of services that support a person's return to the community.

- Relocation Services provides statewide relocation assistance to people in nursing facilities who choose to return to the community. DADS contracts with local organizations to provide intense case management to help people move to the community.
- Transition to Life in the Community (TLC) provides a one-time benefit to people in nursing facilities who transition from a nursing facility through waiver and non-waiver community services programs. The benefit can be used for moving expenses, essential furnishings, security deposits and other transition-related expenses. TLC is also used to cover transition-related expenses not allowed under the Transition Assistance Services (TAS), such as food and first month's rent.
- Transition Assistance Services (TAS) provides a one-time benefit to Medicaid-funded people living in nursing facilities who transition to the community through waiver programs such as CBA, CLASS, CWP, DB-MD, and MDCP. The benefit can be used for moving expenses, essential furnishings, security deposits and other transition-related expenses.
- Housing Voucher Program (HVP) provides housing opportunities to low-income people in nursing facilities. DADS refers them to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA), which in turn determines eligibility.

- Nursing Facility Transition Teams coordinate services and supports for people living in nursing facilities who experience significant transition barriers. A DADS case manager, relocation specialist, the nursing facility social worker, long-term care ombudsman, advocate, family member, a transition team member, and/or any other interested party can refer an individual with complex transition needs to the regional MFP Nursing Facility Transition Team.

Who does a person contact to move out of the nursing facility and receive community services?

A person living in a nursing facility contacts a nursing facility social worker, long-term care ombudsman or uses the list of contacts below:

Call DADS Consumer Rights and Services at 1-800-458-9858

Contact your local DADS office at www.yourtexasbenefits.com or you may contact your regional office directly at:

- Region 1 (Lubbock)(806) 356-3185
- Region 2/9 (Abilene)(325) 795-5729
- Region 3 (Grand Prairie/Dallas)(972) 337-6205
- Region 4/5 (Tyler/Beaumont).....(903) 509-5135
- Region 6 (Houston)(713) 767-2157
- Region 7 (Austin)(512) 706-6001
- Region 8 (San Antonio)(210) 619-8149
- Region 10 (El Paso).....(915) 834-7561
- Region 11 (Edinburg)(956) 316-8139

Other helpful numbers include:

- Adult Protective Services.....1-800-252-5400
- Area Agencies on Aging.....1-800-252-9240
- Consumer Rights1-800-252-8154
- Medicaid Hotline1-800-252-8263
- State Long Term Care Ombudsman Program.....1-800-252-2412
(advocates on behalf of nursing home and assisted living residents)

