

Expanded 2016

Intellectual/Developmental Disability

Acronym Index

Developmental Pathways





Expanded 2016 Developmental Disability/Delay Acronym Index

ACF: “Alternative Care Facilities” are Medicaid funded assisted living facilities designed for frail or disabled individuals who can no longer live independently in their own home or apartment. These facilities provide 24 hour supervision and assistance to meet an individual’s personal care and homemaker needs.

ADS: “Adult Day Services” are therapeutic and psychological activities provided on a regularly scheduled basis in an adult day services center, as an alternative to long-term nursing facility care.

AND: “Aid to Needy and Disabled” is a State benefit available to qualified persons.

BI: The “Persons with Brain Injury Waiver” provide a home or community based alternative to hospital or specialized nursing facility care for persons with brain injury.

BUS: The “Benefits Utilization System” is a Department of Health Care Policy and Financing electronic client record and database system regarding long term care eligibility and continuing stay reviews.

CARF: The “Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities” is the national certification program available for programs for persons with developmental disabilities.

CBMS: The “Colorado Benefits Management System” is the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing computerized system for managing Medicaid eligibility and re-determinations.

CCB: “Community Centered Board” a special designation given to a locally based non-profit entity contracting with the State to provide or purchase services for persons with developmental disabilities. There are 20 CCB’s in the state of Colorado.

CCMS: The “Community Contract Management System” is the Division for Developmental Disabilities’ (DDD) database which houses client contact information as well as service authorization information per client per plan year.

CES: The “Children’s Extensive Support Waiver” provides Medicaid benefits in the home or community for children with developmental disabilities or delays that are most in need due to the severity of their disability.

CHCBS: The “Children’s HCBS Waiver” provides Medicaid benefits in the home or community for children with disabilities who would otherwise be ineligible for Medicaid due to excess parental income and/or resources. Children must be at risk of nursing facility or hospital placement.

CLLI: The “Children with a Life Limiting Illness Waiver” is for children (birth-18) with a prognosis of death that is highly probable before the child reaches adulthood.

CHRP: The “Children’s Habilitative Residential Program” is a Medicaid waiver to support children with developmental disabilities who are also in foster care.

CMHS: The “Community Mental Health Supports Waiver” provides a home or community based alternative to nursing facility care for persons with major mental illness.

COMP Waiver: “Persons with Developmental Disabilities waiver” is commonly referred to as the Comp (i.e., “Comprehensive”) Waiver or DD Waiver.

CWA: The “Children with Autism Waiver” provides Medicaid benefits in the home or community for children with a medical diagnosis of Autism.

DD: “Developmental Delays” for an infant or toddler (birth to age five) is generally defined as delays in primary developmental areas when compared with typical development for the child’s chronological age or living with a parent who has a developmental disability.

DD: “Developmental Disability” is often used interchangeably with ID and I/DD. Please see I/DD for definition.

DD Waiver: The “Persons with Developmental Disabilities Waiver” is commonly referred to as the DD Waiver or Comp (i.e., “Comprehensive”) Waiver. This waiver serves persons who are in need of services and supports 24 hours a day that will allow them to live safely and participate in the community.

DHSS: “Day Habilitation Services and Supports” (i.e., Day Program or Habilitation) services offered to adults enrolled in HCBS-DD or HCBS-SLS Waiver programs during the day and outside of the person’s residential setting.

EBD: The “Elderly, Blind, Disabled Waiver” are designed for adults who are elderly with a functional impairment (aged 65+), blind or disabled (aged 18-64) and would like long term care services in their home as an alternative to nursing facility care.

FSS-SGF: The “Family Support Services State General Fund” offers support to families who have a child or adult with developmental disabilities who is living at home. The supports are intended to assist families in finding and/or funding some of the resources and services that are needed when parenting their child or assisting an adult family member with developmental disabilities.

GRSS: “Group Residential Services and Supports” are residential services and supports in group home settings that are licensed by the CDH, for individuals enrolled in HCBS-DD Waiver program. These settings have four or more individuals.

HHS: “Home Health Services” are skilled services such as Certified Nursing Aide or Nursing (i.e., RN, LPN) services provided by a Home Health Agency (HHA) for clients who need Intermittent Home Health Services (HHS).

HCBS: “Home & Community Based Services” is a Medicaid program that provides in-home services for individuals who qualify both financially and functionally. This program is designed to help individuals stay in the least restrictive environment possible.

HCBS/DD: The “Home & Community-Based Services for Developmentally Disabled” is a Medicaid waiver funded residential services for adults requiring extensive supports to live safely in the community and do not have other sources for meeting those needs. In addition to residential services it covers day program, supported employment, transportation services and access to 24-hour supervision.

ICF/IID: Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities.

ID: “Intellectual Disabilities” is a medical diagnosis. Often used interchangeably with DD (developmental disability) and I/DD. Please see I/DD for definition.

I/DD: “Intellectual/developmental disability” is a funding or legislative term for children over age five and adults. It is an umbrella term that includes intellectual disability as well as other neurological and physical diagnoses such as autism, cerebral palsy, and epilepsy. Each of the following criteria must be met: 1). Manifests prior to age 22 and 2). Results in IQ of 70 or below or limited adaptive behavior skills (e.g., conceptual skills, social skills, and practical skills).

LTC: “Long Term Care” is the length of care approved through Medicaid waiver programs and for those in nursing homes and intermediate care facilities.

MIN: The “Most in Need Survey” is completed in order to determine a client’s spot on the Family Support Services waiting list.

MSO: “Managed Service Organization” is a term increasingly being used to describe managed care in human services versus acute health care.

OBRA: The “Omnibus Bill & Reconciliation Act” is a general term for many aspects of federal budget legislation. It is relevant to Community Center Boards because of the part of the legislation dealing with funding of services for older Americans in nursing homes.

PAR: The “Prior Authorization Request” is a request to the State or a private insurer that will permit an individual to receive medical services and allow for reimbursement of costs to a health care provider.

Part C: Federal funding for infant/toddler programs through Division for Developmental Disabilities; also known in Colorado as Early Childhood Connections.

PASA: “Program Approved Service Agencies” provide services and supports (e.g., direct care) as identified by the CCB.

PASS: “Plan to Achieve Self-Sufficiency” is a work and skills development program which allows deferral of return of federal benefits that would otherwise be lost because of excess wages.

PCA: “Personal Care Alternative” is a residential program based in an apartment setting or a home serving three or fewer clients.

RC: Regional Centers are state run facilities for persons with developmental disabilities. There are three in the state of Colorado located in Wheatridge, Grand Junction and Pueblo.

RFP: “Request For Proposal” is a request that is sent out to appropriate service agencies asking for proposals to serve specific individuals who have been allotted new resources.

SA: “Service Agency” is a contracting organization with a CCB to provide services to clients. Also referred to as PASA.

SE: “Supported Employment” is a program that assists people with developmental disabilities to find community based jobs.

PLWA: The “Persons Living with AIDS” Medicaid Waiver provides home or community based alternatives to hospital or nursing facility care for individuals with HIV/AIDS.

SCI: The “Persons with Spinal Cord Injury” Medicaid Waiver provides home or community based alternatives to hospital or nursing facility care for individuals with spinal cord injuries.

SEP: The “Single Entry Point” agency is responsible for managing the implementation of several HCBS waivers. Access Long Term Support Solutions is the SEP for Adams, Arapahoe, Douglas, Denver, and Elbert counties.

SIS: The “Support Intensity Scale” is a tool to measure the intensity of a person’s support needs, designed to provide information that can help planning teams, agencies and organizations understand the support need of people with intellectual disabilities and closely related developmental disabilities.

SLS: The “Supported Living Services Waiver” provides persons with developmental disabilities supported living services in the person’s home or community. Utilized by persons, who can either live independently with limited supports or who, if they need extensive supports, are already receiving that high level of support from other sources, such as family.

SP: The “Service Plan” is a written document developed by the client and their interdisciplinary team which drives the programs, supports and services which will be delivered to the individual in the next year.

State SLS: “State Supported Living Services” are for adults who are not eligible for Medicaid and who either can live independently with limited supports or who, if they need extensive support, are getting that support from other sources, such as their family.

TBI: “Traumatic Brain Injury” is when an external force traumatically injures the brain and impacts functioning.

100.2: A level of care assessment required for waiver program enrollment on the BUS.



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The top half of the image features a dense, abstract mosaic of various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue. The mosaic pattern is irregular and textured.

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The bottom half of the image features a dense, abstract mosaic of various shades of grey, ranging from light grey to dark charcoal grey. The mosaic pattern is irregular and textured, matching the style of the top half.