



Important Change to Children’s Home and Community Based Services Waiver Programs

To Parents, Youth, and Caregivers:

Our records show that your child participates in _____
Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver program. New York State is improving children’s support services, changing the way children will access HCBS, and adding services that your child might qualify to receive.

Will my child lose eligibility for their services?

No, your child will not lose eligibility for services he/she gets today. However, you may experience some changes. For example, the name of the service may change. The way you can get the service may change. The way you get care management will change. Most children will have access to more options to get care.

What is changing and when?

HCBS Waiver Programs

New York State is improving access to children’s HCBS programs by combining different waiver programs. The change is expected to happen in early 2019. Current supports for your child will continue. Your child may be eligible for new services with this change.

Children’s Health Home

Starting January 1, 2019, HCBS care management will be provided by “Children’s Health Home.” A Health Home is not a place, it is a way to receive comprehensive care management with all of your providers working together to make sure your child gets the care they need.

Most children can enroll in a Health Home and still keep their current care management provider. Your care manager will explain what this change means for your child. They can explain your options and help you choose a Health Home.

Children and Family Treatment and Support Services

Starting January 1, 2019, there will be new services available through Medicaid. These new services are called Children and Family Treatment and Support Services. These



services help people under the age of 21 and their families improve their health and well-being. Your care manager can explain these services and you can discuss whether they would be helpful to you and your child.

Why is New York making this change?

New York State is making these changes to the Medicaid program to give more services to children. Eligible children may get additional Home and Community Based Services they are not able to now. Also, Medicaid will cover some new services without participating in a waiver.

Will my child lose eligibility services?

No, your child will not lose eligibility for services he/she gets today. However, you may experience some changes. For example, the name of the service may change, the way the service is accessed or the rules about how its delivered may change, and the way care management is provided will change. Most children will have access to more options.

Does my child have to enroll in a Medicaid Managed Care Plan?

Today, some children receiving Waiver services are already enrolled in a Medicaid Managed Care Plan.

If you are not currently enrolled, you may need to choose a Plan in the future. If this applies to you, you should receive a letter letting you know when it's time to choose a Plan.

Some children cannot enroll in a Medicaid Managed Care Plan. Their services will continue to be paid through regular Medicaid.

If you have any questions about enrolling in a Plan, you can speak with your care coordinator or call New York Medicaid Choice at 1-800-505-5678 (TTY 1-888-329-1541).

What if I have questions?

If you have questions about this change, please call your waiver care coordinator.