

## OTHER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS WAIVERS

### LONG TERM HOME HEALTH CARE PROGRAM (LTHHCP)

**Description:** The Long Term Home Health Care Program (LTHHCP) also known as the “Nursing Home Without Walls” or “Lombardi Program” is a federal 1915 c Home and Community Based Services waiver (HCBS). It is administered by local departments of social services and overseen by the State Department of Health (SDOH).

This Medicaid waiver was first authorized by the federal government in 1979 and became operational in 1983. It is designed to serve seniors and individuals with physical disabilities who: are medically eligible for nursing facility (NF) level of care; chose to remain at home; have assessed service needs that can be met safely in the home and community; and, have a service plan with Medicaid costs for services which fall within the participant’s county of residence expenditure cap for nursing facility level of care. LTHHCP is available in all counties of New York State with the exception of: Chenango, Essex, Hamilton, Lewis, Livingston, Schoharie and Schuylar.

Pursuant to a written authorization from the State Health Commissioner, LTHHCP services may be provided by a certified home health agency (public or voluntary non-profit organization) or a residential health care facility or a hospital currently certified under Article 28 of the Public Health Law.

The AIDS Home Care Program (AHCP) instituted in 1992 to meet the challenge of the high incidence of AIDS in New York State is a subset of the LTHCCP. Certain LTHHCP agencies are approved by the federal government and New York Department of Health to provide the AHC.

LTHHCP services include: nursing, home health aide services, medical supplies and equipment, therapies (e.g. physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy,) and personal care services including homemaker and housekeeper. In addition there are waiver services including: medical social services, respiratory therapy, nutritional counseling, home maintenance tasks, environmental modifications (home improvement services) and vehicular modifications, respite care both at home or in an institution, social day care, transportation to social day care, home delivered or congregate meals, assistive technology that includes Personal Emergency Response System (PERS), home and community support services, community transitional services, moving assistance, home and community support services, community transitional services and assistive technology.

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**Policy:**

An individual participating in the LTHHCP waiver (including AHCP participants) must fulfill requirements in three categories:

1. Be medically eligible for placement in a residential health care facility or hospital for an extended period of time;
2. Have total expenditures for health and medical services described in a comprehensive plan of care that do not exceed, on an annual basis, 75% of the monthly cost of care in a RHCF or 100% of the monthly cost when determined as special needs or 50% of the monthly cost when residing in an Adult Care Facility; and
3. Be determined eligible for Medicaid.

An important feature of the LTHHCP is the use of a comprehensive and coordinated assessment process to formulate a summary of the required services and a plan of care. Two distinct assessment processes are required for each individual prior to the development of a summary of services requirements for the individual; these are a medical assessment and a home assessment.

Individuals participating in the LTHHCP are assessed prior to enrollment in the program and must be reassessed for continued participation in the program every 180 days through the use of a joint assessment process between the local department of social services and a certified LTHHCP provider.

**References:**

ADMs	11 OLTC/ADM-1 09 OLTC/ADM-01 02 ADM-04 85 ADM-27 83 ADM-74 78 ADM-70
GISs	11 LTC005 11 LTC008 11 LTC009 10 LTC001 09 OLTC003 09 OLTC002 08 OLTC-008 06 MA-011 05 MA-37 01 MA-035

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WAIVERS**

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**Interpretation:** Persons who request participation in the LTHHCP must be determined eligible for Medicaid, if Medicaid is to cover such services. Such persons must comply with the eligibility requirements of the appropriate category of assistance. See: **INCOME, PERSONS IN MEDICAL FACILITIES, CHRONIC CARE BUDGETING METHODOLOGY FOR INSTITUTIONALIZED SPOUSES** and **INCOME SSI-RELATED BUDGETING METHODOLOGY;** and **RESOURCES PERSONS IN MEDICAL FACILITIES.**