

Eligibility for Autism Waiver (AW) Services

Children must meet technical, medical, and financial eligibility

- Have a current Individualized Education Program (IEP) classification of Autism and/or clinical diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) within the last 3 years by a qualified diagnostician
- Be a resident of Maryland
- Be age 1 through the end of the school semester when the child turns 21 years old
- Have an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) or IEP with at least 15 hours per week of special education/related services
- Meet an institutional Level of Care for Intermediate Care Facilities for individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF-IID) and choose to receive AW services as an alternative
- Be able to be served and safely maintained in the home and community through AW services
- Meet financial eligibility for Medical Assistance; the child's monthly income may not exceed 300% of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits and their countable assets may not exceed \$2,000 or \$2500 (depending on eligibility category)
- Choose the AW as the waiver that best meet the child's needs if the child is enrolled in another Home and Community-Based Services Waiver, the Model Waiver or any other Section 1915c Medicaid Waiver program, as applicable

Autism Waiver Waitlist

Contact the Autism Waiver Helpline at 1-866- 417-3480 if interested in registering for the AW Waitlist

- Parents must provide the following information for the child:
 - Name
 - Date of birth
 - Address
 - County of residence
 - Contact information
 - Parents must confirm a diagnosis of ASD
 - Parents must confirm the child has an IFSP or IEP
- Confirm at least 15 hours of special education/ related services per week on IEP
- Parents must ensure all demographic information is up to date and must contact the AW Helpline to report any changes
- Application for enrollment is based on chronological order from the time the child's name is placed on the Waitlist

Application Process

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) will send an application letter when there is a vacancy and the child may begin the AW application process to determine eligibility

- Contact the local education agency or the early intervention program to speak to the AW contact and begin the eligibility determination process
- Work with the child's assigned Service Coordinator to complete the financial eligibility application within 45 days from the date of application letter from MDH
- Contribute to the Level of Care assessment process that determines the child's medical eligibility
- Receive notification of eligibility from the State. If eligible, the letter will include a start date to begin AW services
- Attend a multidisciplinary team meeting to develop a Plan of Care
- Maintain eligibility by using at least one participant-focused AW service per month

Autism Waiver Services

Autism Waiver Services use the home and community environment as a learning experience

- Intensive Individual Support Services (IISS):**
 One-on-one assistance based on the child's need for interventions and support. Services assist children in acquiring, retaining, and improving self-help, socialization, communication, daily living, functional living, behavior management, and adaptive skills necessary to reside successfully at home.
- Therapeutic Integration- Regular (TI) or Intensive (ITI):**
 A structured program available outside of school hours that provides therapeutic activities and expressive therapies specially needed for children and adolescents who have problems with socialization, isolation, hyperactivity, impulse control, and behavior.
- Respite Care:** Short-term supervision and assistance with activities of daily living that are provided to children because of the absence or need for relief of those persons normally providing care.
- Environmental Accessibility Adaptations (EAA):**
 Funding towards making physical adaptations to the home that are necessary to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the individual in the home environment.
- Family Consultation (FC):** Individualized consultation and training provided to a child's family.
- Adult Life Planning (ALP):** Family-centered and focused on educating and supporting the family in accessing adult community services on behalf of the participant.
- Residential Habilitation- Regular or Intensive:**
 Community-based residential placement for children who cannot live at home because they require highly supervised and supportive environments with the goal of returning the child to the home.

Autism Waiver Contacts

Jurisdiction	Local Education Agency Contact	Early Intervention Contact
Allegany	301-759-2051	301-759-2415
Anne Arundel	410-980-1866	410-424-3268
Baltimore City	410-396-0775	410-396-1666
Baltimore County	443-809-4130	443-809-2169
Calvert	410-550-8332	443-550-8380
Caroline	410-479-3640, x112	410-479-1460, x1112
Carroll	410-751-3033	410-751-3155
Cecil	410-996-5401, x50407	410-996-5450, x50402
Charles	301-392-7508	301-753-1745, x105146
Dorchester	410-228-4747	410-221-1111, x1022
Frederick	301-644-5274	301-600-3118
Garrett	301-334-7658	301-334-7658
Harford	410-558-5246	410-638-3823
Howard	410-313-6659	410-313-7017
Kent	410-778-7164	410-778-7164
Montgomery	240-740-3877	240-777-1778
Prince George's	301-702-2890	301-925-1985
Queen Anne's	410-758-2403, x179	410-556-6103, x11
St. Mary's	301-475-5511, x32228	301-475-5511, x32218
Somerset	410-651-6268	410-651-1616
Talbot	410-822-0330, x436	410-822-0330, x150
Washington	301-766-8222	301-766-2964
Wicomico	410-677-4507	410-677-5250
Worcester	410-632-5034	410-632-5033

Maryland State Department of Education
 Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services
 Interagency Collaboration Branch
 Autism Waiver and Health Related Services
 200 West Baltimore Street, 9th floor, Baltimore, MD 21201
 4410-767-1446 Voice • 410-333-0298 Fax • 410-333-0731 TTY/TDD
marylandpublicschools.org

Maryland Department of Health
 Division of Community Long Term Care
 Office of Long-Term Services and Supports Administration
 201 W. Preston Street Baltimore, Maryland 21201
 410-767-5220 Voice • 410-333-5362 Fax
 Deaf/Hard of Hearing Use Relay
health.maryland.gov