



Accessing Community Supports & Adult Services:

Helpful Tips to Access & Navigate Systems

SSI – Supplemental Security Income

<https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/disability/>

Terminology:

Social Security Administration - 3 Types of Income:

- Social Security (SS)
 - Retirement income received at the age of retirement and after paying a qualifying amount into Social Security
- Social Security Disability Income (SSDI)
 - Disability income for those who have paid a qualifying amount into Social Security and have become disabled or have a parent or spouse that is deceased and the individual is receiving a benefit based on the family members benefit
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - Supplemental cash income for those who are disabled and have not worked or have not worked enough to qualify for SSDI

Tips and Need to Know Information:

- Household income is considered prior to the age of 18
 - After age 18, income is based on individual's income rather than household income
- Information on household income and expenses will be requested along with medical and educational information (even if the individual is over 18 years)
 - Identify expenses the individual would have if the family were not covering expenses (rent, utilities, medical costs, therapies, disability specific needs, etc)
- Individuals will be required to apply for SSDI and SSI.
 - If an individual does not qualify for SSDI, the benefit will be denied. However, an individual may still qualify for SSI.
 - This is common and a denial letter for SSDI should not typically be concerning
- 70% of applicants are automatically denied for SSI
 - Schedule an in person interview rather than a phone interview
 - This may reduce processing time and decrease the chance of being denied
 - If denied, do NOT "Re-Apply", instead "**Appeal**" the decision

Medicaid / KanCare

<https://kancare.ks.gov/consumers/apply-for-kancare>

Call 1-800-792-4884 to Request an Application

Mail or Fax Application to:

KanCare Clearinghouse PO Box 3599

Topeka, KS 66601-9738

Fax: 1-844-264-6285

Terminology:

- Medicaid
 - A joint federal and state health insurance program for individuals with disabilities (and other populations) who qualify
- KanCare
 - The program in Kansas which administers Medicaid
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE)
 - Maintains financial management and contract oversight of KanCare
- Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS)
 - Administers the medicaid waivers for disability services and mental health services
- Managed Care Organizations (MCO's)
 - Contracting insurance agencies that provide health care plans to individuals receiving Medicaid
 - Kansas is currently contracting with 3 different insurance agencies (MCO's)
 - Individuals can choose or change their MCO during open enrollment

Tips and Need to Know Information:

- Individuals applying for Medicaid are required to apply for SSI
 - The application processes for SSI and Medicaid are different
 - An individual must apply for both SSI and Medicaid independently of the other
- Individuals receiving SSI are “presumed eligible” for Medicaid if s/he is receiving SSI
 - It is necessary to apply for Medicaid even if an individual is “presumed eligible”
- Individuals may still qualify for Medicaid even if the individual is unable to receive a cash benefit through SSI due to household income
 - Individuals will still be required to apply for SSI

Home and Community Based Services

[https://www.kdads.ks.gov/commissions/home-community-based-services-\(hcbs\)](https://www.kdads.ks.gov/commissions/home-community-based-services-(hcbs))
[HCBS Access Guide](#)

Terminology:

- Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)
 - Provides services for targeted populations that qualify so individuals can receive services and supports in their home or community
 - Provides oversight for waiver programs in Kansas
 - These services are paid for through Medicaid and are typically not covered by private insurance companies.
- Waiver Services
 - Individualized systems of support
 - Services vary depending on the waiver service an individual qualifies for
- Service providers
 - Agencies that contract with Kansas to provide services to individuals with qualifying disabilities
 - Service providers include a variety of private not-for-profit and for-profit organizations as well as governmental entities
- Services are paid for through Medicaid after an individual is found eligible

Kansas HCBS Waivers & Links to Additional Information:

*Indicates waivers typically accessed by school aged individuals and will be further explained in this document.

1. [Autism \(AU\) - child who starts services before age 6*](#)
2. [Frail Elderly \(FE\) - 65+ years](#)
3. [Intellectual and Developmental Disability \(I/DD\) - 5+ years*](#)
4. [Physical Disability \(PD\) - 16-64 years](#)
5. [Serious Emotional Disturbance \(SED\) - 4-18 years*](#)
6. [Technology Assisted \(TA\) - 0-21 years*](#)
7. [Traumatic Brain Injury \(TBI\) - 16-64 years](#)
8. [Institutional Transitions](#)
9. [Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities \(ICF-IID\)](#)
10. [Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly \(PACE\)](#)

AUTISM (AU) WAIVER SERVICES

Apply for services at:

[https://www.kdads.ks.gov/commissions/home-community-based-services-\(hcbs\)/programs/autism](https://www.kdads.ks.gov/commissions/home-community-based-services-(hcbs)/programs/autism)

- Ages: Birth to 5
- Provides support and training to parents of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
 - Family Adjustment Counseling
 - Parent Support and Training (peer to peer)
 - Respite Care

Intellectual / Developmental Disability (I/DD) Waiver Services

[https://www.kdads.ks.gov/commissions/home-community-based-services-\(hcbs\)/programs/i-dd](https://www.kdads.ks.gov/commissions/home-community-based-services-(hcbs)/programs/i-dd)

- Ages: 6 - 64
- Provides services and supports to individuals who meet the definition of having an intellectual and/or developmental disability
 - Assistive Services
 - Adult Day Supports
 - Financial Management Services
 - Medical Alert-rental
 - Overnight Respite
 - Personal Care Services
 - Residential Supports for Adults
 - Residential Supports for Children
 - Enhanced Care Services
 - Specialized Medical Care
 - Supported Employment
 - Supportive Home Care
 - Wellness Monitoring
 - Targeted Case Management
 - Targeted Case Management (TCM) is not a waiver service and is available once you are found eligible for I/DD services (paid for by Medicaid. If you are not KanCare eligible, you may be eligible for this service, but there may be a fee (private pay) for the case management
- Apply for services with your local Community Developmental Disability Organization (CDDO)
 - Each county in Kansas has a CDDO: [CDDO Map](#)
 - CDDO's determine eligibility for IDD services, gather required documentation, and provide an explanation of services
 - CDDO's do not provide direct services to individuals, but can provide information about contracting providers in the area once an individual is determined eligible.

Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) Waiver Services

[https://www.kdads.ks.gov/commissions/home-community-based-services-\(hcbs\)/programs/sed-waiver](https://www.kdads.ks.gov/commissions/home-community-based-services-(hcbs)/programs/sed-waiver)

- Ages: 4-18
- Provides services and supports to children diagnosed with a mental health condition that substantially disrupts a child's ability to function socially, academically, or socially
 - Parent Support and Training
 - Independent Living/Skills Building
 - Short Term Respite Care
 - Wraparound Facilitation
 - Professional Resource Family Care
 - Attendant Care
- Services are viewed as rehabilitative and are designed to support the child and family while they are in need. Services may end when the child's functioning is stabilized
- Apply for services with your local Community Mental Health Center (CMHC)
 - Each county in Kansas has a CMHC
 - Refer to the [HCBS Access Guide](#) (page 14) to find the CMHC that serves your county

Technology Assisted (TA) Waiver Services

[https://www.kdads.ks.gov/commissions/home-community-based-services-\(hcbs\)/programs/technology-assisted-program](https://www.kdads.ks.gov/commissions/home-community-based-services-(hcbs)/programs/technology-assisted-program)

- Ages: Birth - 21
- Provides services to individuals who are chronically ill or medically fragile and dependent upon a ventilator or medical device to compensate for the loss of vital bodily function
 - Health Maintenance Monitoring
 - Home Modification
 - Financial Management Services (FMS)
 - Intermittent Intensive Medical Care
 - Personal Care Services (PCS)
 - Medical Respite
 - Specialized Medical Care (SMC)
- To apply for services contact:
 - Children's Resource Connection
 - By phone: 316-721-1945 or
 - By email: crctaks@gmail.com

For additional information, supports, and resources for families, educators, and students: visit www.ksdetasn.org