

Welcome to

# Children With Autism Waiver

Webinar for Providers



PRESENTED BY:

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DATE:

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*Our Mission:*

**Improving** health care access  
and outcomes for the **people**  
we serve while demonstrating sound  
stewardship of financial **resources**



## Senate Bill 12-159



- Background issues
- What it does
- Who it effects
- When changes take effect

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Legislation was passed in 2012

Background issues – the waiver was under utilized because it served a small population and the time it takes for a client on the waitlist, they age out of the waiver before they can receive services

Stakeholders came together to draft this legislation to require the Department to do the following:

- Department must prioritize waitlist based on imminent need
- Department must review funds annually to determine if adding waiver slots is possible
- Requires providers to perform a standardized, norm-referenced assessment
- Requires an outside contractor develop evaluation of program to see effectiveness of the waiver
  
- Changes take effect January 1, 2013

## Standardized Norm-Referenced Assessment

- Most current version of an assessment tool that **measures a child's adaptive functioning**, including but not limited to:
- self-help skills
  - expressive and receptive communication
  - adaptive and maladaptive behaviors

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Needed to find a way to assess clients needs consistently

A workgroup of Department staff, advocates, parents, Case Manager supervisors and providers came together to discuss the requirements of the legislation, brainstorm ideas on how to prioritize the waitlist, and how to deal with clients who are already on the waitlist.

Definition of Standardized Norm-Referenced Assessment

## Standardized Norm-Referenced Assessment

→ A few examples of appropriate assessment tools:

- Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales, Second Edition (Vineland-II)
- Scales of Independent Behavior, Revised (SIB-R)
- Adaptive Behavior Assessment System, Second Edition (ABAS-II)

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A Standardized Norm-Referenced Assessment can be provided by anyone who has the credentials to provide the assessment

These are 3 examples of the most common assessment tools out there. These three are mentioned in the rule as suggested assessments.

This specific variety of assessment tools was picked because:

- They are comparable to each other – the scores can be compared across the board
- Gives Providers options to provide the assessment they currently use or like
- Gives families more options of providers

# Prioritizing CWA Waitlist

Begins November 1, 2013

Waitlist #	Client Name	Assessed Need
1	Client 123	Low
2	Client 456	Medium
3	Client 789	High
4	Client 147	Medium
5	Client 258	Low
6	Client 369	High
7	Client 014	High

Order Submitted	Client Name	Assessment Score
3	Client 789	4
6	Client 369	19
7	Client 014	33
2	Client 456	47
4	Client 147	62
1	Client 123	85
5	Client 258	96

**Past** – first come, first served

**Future** – prioritized waitlist based on standardized assessment score



Current clients on the waitlist prior to November 1, 2013 will be grandfathered in in the order they already are in.

The prioritized waitlist will only apply to clients entering the waitlist after November 1, 2013

Current waitlist places clients on the waiver in a first come, first served basis

The prioritized waitlist will place clients based on need according to their standardized norm-referenced assessment score.

The lowest composite score = highest need

## The Assessment

- To get on the waitlist, families must have their child assessed
  - Family can use a previously conducted assessment, but it must be standardized norm-referenced, AND less than 1 year old
  
- Once on waitlist, the child will not have to be re-assessed again until enrollment in the waiver



Families must have their child assessed in order to be placed on the waitlist, or can use a prior assessment that is less than one year old as long as it is standardized norm-referenced.

Once on the waitlist, the child will not have to be re-assessed again until enrolled in the waiver.

It's important to note that children on the CWA waiver waitlist prior to November 1, 2013 will be grandfathered in and will maintain their current place on the waitlist. Only children added to the waitlist after November 1, 2013 will be prioritized by assessment score.

## The Assessment

- Families must pay for the initial assessment for placement on waitlist
  - Possible funding for current Medicaid families
- Once enrolled in waiver, assessments will be covered by waiver funds



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The legislation did not appropriate any funds to help families pay for the assessment. Families will have to pay for the first assessment to get the client placed on the waitlist.

The Department is exploring options to provide funding for families currently on Medicaid. Additional resources may be available and will be posted on Advocates website.

Once the client is placed on the waiver, the assessments will be covered by waiver funds.

## The Assessment

→ Once on the waitlist, if a family feels the child's condition has changed:

- Family can choose to have child re-assessed at own cost
- Lowest score determines waitlist position



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Once on the waitlist, the family can choose to have their child re-assessed at any time, however, this assessment will be at their own cost.

The family/provider can submit the new score to the Case Manager to see if it changes their position on the waitlist.

The lowest score determines the waitlist position.

## The Assessment

- To **enroll** in the waiver, client must have an assessment **less than 30 days old** to begin receiving services



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Assessments can be up to a year old in order to get on the waitlist

To enroll in the waiver, clients must have a new assessment that has occurred less than 30 days prior to beginning services

# Questions

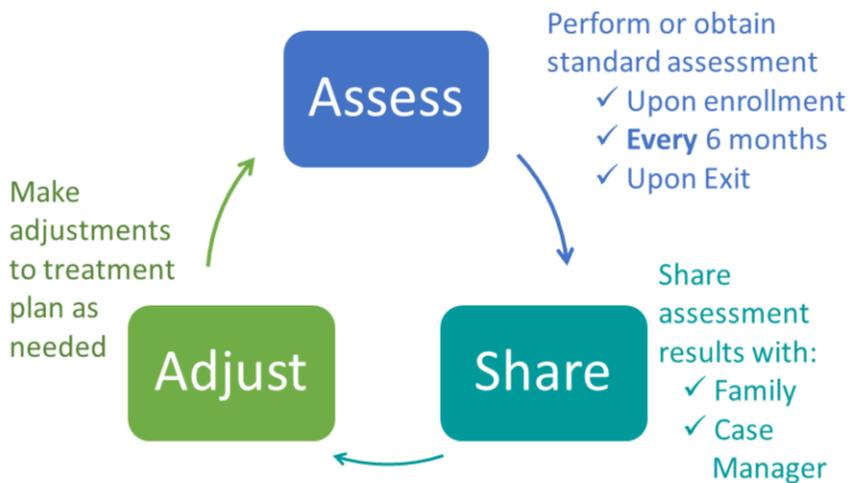


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Questions about the assessment before we get into the process?

## Provider Assessment Process



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This is the process the Provider is responsible for

## Billing for Assessments

- Providers can bill for conducting these assessments
- Two new services
  - Initial / ongoing evaluation
    - Procedure Code H2000
  - Post service evaluation
    - Procedure Code H2000 TS

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## What if a Client Switches Providers?

- Providers will **not** have to conduct new assessment if a client switches providers, if the switch is outside the child's scheduled time

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## Future

→ Overall program evaluation

→ Outside contractor will:

- Review results of assessments
- Determine effectiveness of waiver
- Provide data system for providers to enter assessment information

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## Resources

### → Volume 8 Rules – 8.519

- [www.colorado.gov/hcpf](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf)
  - Quick Links > Program Rules and Regulations

### → Billing Manual

- [www.colorado.gov/hcpf](http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf)
  - Providers > Provider Services > Billing Manuals

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# Questions



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## Contacts

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