



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

The Children's Extensive Support Program

Home and Community Based Services

The Children's Extensive Support Program Overview

Children with developmental disabilities or delays may qualify for the Children's Extensive Support (CES) program. CES can help you keep your child at home and prevent out-of-home placement.

A Community-Centered Board (CCB) support person can help you. Together you will develop an Individualized Service Plan for your child. During this planning process, you'll discuss service options and other community supports. Together you'll make an informed decision about your child's care, and decide if CES, or another program, would be best for your child.

Children who qualify for the CES program:

1. Are under 18;
2. Either live at home with their parents or guardians, or could live at home if they had CES services; and
3. If 5 or older, have a developmental disability; if younger than 5, have a developmental delay.

Financial criteria

The child applying for CES must:

1. Meet Supplemental Security Income (SSI) criteria for a disability; and
2. Have income at or below 300 percent of the current maximum SSI allowance; and
3. Have resources at or below the maximum SSI allowance; and
4. Experience overall savings in the CES program, compared to the cost of living in an intermediate care facility

Our mission is to improve health care access and outcomes for the people we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources.

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Level of Care criteria

The child applying for CES must:

1. Qualify for the level of care provided in an intermediate care facility

Behavioral/medical criteria

The child applying for CES must:

1. Have behavior or a medical condition that requires direct human intervention. The needed intervention must be more intense than a verbal reminder, re-direction or having someone check in on them.

This direct human intervention must happen:

- At least once every two hours during the day, and
- On a weekly average, once every three hours during the night.

The behavior or medical condition must be:

1. A significant pattern of self-endangering behavior(s) or a medical condition which could be life threatening without direct human intervention, **within the past six months; or**
2. A significant pattern of serious aggressive behaviors toward self, others or property which could be life threatening without direct human intervention, **within the past six months; or**
3. Vocalizations such as screaming, crying, laughing, or verbal threats, which cause emotional distress to family caregivers. These must be more than what would be typical for someone their age and must occur **an average of fifteen (15) minutes of each waking hour.**

Information you provide, and other data must show that your child's behavior(s) or medical need(s) meet the behavioral/medical criteria.

Ongoing eligibility criteria

Children who receive CES benefits must be reassessed once a year. During the yearly reassessment, information from parents or guardians and other data must show that without CES benefits, the child would meet the behavioral/medical criteria.

- Evidence includes, but is not limited to: medical records, professional evaluations and assessments, educational records, insurance claims, police reports, social services reports, or observation by a third party on a regular basis.



CES can help the long-term stability of your family and help prevent out-of-home placement of your child.

CES does not provide 24-hour-a-day services for your child. CES provides services and supports only for specific needs.

CES does not replace the family's responsibilities to provide for the basic needs of the child and family. There must be a basic level of support provided by the family/community to meet the full range of needs that a child may have. Families will provide the majority of care and be responsible for the general living environment and home.

There may be other help available for you and your family. Contact your Community-Centered Board to learn more.

