

Community Alternatives Placement Program for Children and Adults with Mental Retardation or Developmental Disabilities (CAP-MR/DD)

OVERVIEW

What is it?

The Medicaid-financed Community Alternative Placement Program for children and adults with Mental Retardation or Developmental Disabilities (CAP-MR/DD) provides support services to enable individuals with developmental disabilities or mental retardation to remain in the community instead of residing in an institutional setting.

Who is it for?

Services are available to children and adults with developmental disabilities or mental retardation who would otherwise need to be cared for in an Intermediate Care Facility for individuals with Mental Retardation or Developmental Disabilities (ICF-MR/DD).

Where are applications taken?

Applications for CAP-MR/DD are taken at the local area Mental Health, Developmental Disability, and Substance Abuse Services Agency (MH/DD/SAS).

INTRODUCTION

The CAP-MR/DD was established to enable certain children and adults who would otherwise need institutionalization to remain at home or in the community. Unlike other Medicaid programs, only the client's income and resources (not his/her family's income or resources) are considered in determining eligibility for this program. *Individuals who qualify for this program are eligible for the full range of Medicaid benefits, plus may receive additional services not otherwise offered to Medicaid eligibles.*

BENEFITS/ SERVICES

CAP-MR/DD is available to children (and adults) who need the care of an Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded or Developmentally Disabled (ICF-MR/DD). Each eligible participant is assigned a case manager. The case manager works with the family (and sometimes, additional professionals) to develop a treatment plan for the child (or eligible adult). The treatment plan, along with any revisions to the plan, must be submitted to the state for approval. Once approved, Medicaid will pay for authorized treatment and services, up to a maximum budget of \$5,674/month (\$68,088/year).

Individuals receiving CAP-MR/DD services are entitled to the full array of Medicaid services. In addition, eligible participants can receive the following services (not normally covered by Medicaid):

- Augmentative communication devices (purchase or rental up to \$10,000 per year);
- Case management services;
- Community inclusion (habilitative training);
- Crisis stabilization (limited to two weeks at a time, on physician's order);
- Developmental day care;
- Environmental accessibility adaptation (up to \$1,500/year for ramps, safety rails, etc.);
- Family training;
- Personal care services;
- Personal emergency response system;
- Respite care (including institutional, community based and nursing respite);
- Supported living (habilitative training and some personal care assistance)
- Vehicle adaptation (up to \$10,000); and
- Other supplies and equipment (adaptive positioning devices, mobility aids, aids for daily living or cognitive, perceptual, and motor-development treatment/therapy equipment and supplies).

APPLICATIONS

Children and adults may apply for CAP-MR/DD program at local area Mental Health, Developmental Disability, and Substance Abuse Services Agencies.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible, a child/adult must be a resident of North Carolina and a US citizen or other qualified alien (see Medicaid chapter 7). The child/adult must meet ICF-MR/DD criteria, which shows that the child/adult has a condition that requires active treatment at the ICF-MR/DD level of care. The child also needs to have a diagnosis of mental retardation or an IQ test result indicating mental retardation or a related condition which is manifested before the child reaches age 22, or a related condition resulting in substantial functional limitation in three or more areas of the following:

- Self-care,
- Understanding and use of language,
- Learning,
- Mobility,
- Self direction, and
- Capacity for independent living.

Unlike other Medicaid programs, the agencies will not consider the income or resources of the parent(s) in determining the child's eligibility for this program. Only the child's income and resources will be counted. (The income and resource rules are the same as those listed in the Medicaid chapters).

NUMBERS SERVED

The CAP-MR/DD program has 5,127 slots. It served 2,068 children (under 18 years of age) in FY 1998.

PRIORITIZATION SYSTEM	Each area program has an interagency council that recommends children and adults for CAP-MR/DD slots. If all of the slots are filled, eligible individuals are prioritized and placed on a waiting list.
APPEAL RIGHTS	Children who are denied assistance through this program have the same appeal rights as other Medicaid recipients (See Medicaid chapter).
FINANCING	Medicaid finances the CAP-MR/DD programs. The total FY 1997 expenditures for this program were \$106,199,243.
ADMINISTRATION	This program is administered at the national level by the Health Care Financing Agency within the US Department of Health and Human Services (which administers the Medicaid program). At the state level, the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse, housed within the NC Department of Health and Human Services, administers the CAP-MR/DD program. At the local level, the CAP-MR/DD program is administered by area MH/DD/SAS agencies.
SOURCES OF LAW	Federal statute: 42 USC 1396u(b), 1396n(c) Federal regulations: 42 CFR 441, Subpart G
FOR MORE INFORMATION	CAP-MR/DD Branch Division of Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities/Substance Abuse Services NC Department of Health and Human Services 3509 Haworth, Suite 105 Raleigh, NC 27609 919-571-4980 CARELINE: 1-800-662-7030 Head Start is a free, comprehensive, early childhood program that offers education, meals, social services, medical and dental care, and mental health services for children, and programs for parents.

