

# THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED WAIVER PROGRAM (EDWP)

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## What is the EDWP Program?

SOURCE + CCSP (Traditional/Enhanced) are part of the EDWP. Both SOURCE and CCSP assists individuals who are elderly and/or functionally impaired to remain in their homes and/or communities. For eligible consumers, EDWP offers community-based services as an alternative to nursing facility placement. The Department of Community Health administers and operates the EDWP.

## What services are available through this program?

### *Adult Day Health*

- Daytime care and supervision in an adult day center
- Nursing and medical social services
- Planned therapeutic activities
- Physical, speech, and occupational therapy
- Meals, including prescribed diets

### *Alternative Living Services*

- Alternative residence for persons unable to remain independent in their own homes
- Meals, personal care, and supervision

### *Emergency Response Services*

- In-home electronic support system providing two-way communication between isolated persons and a medical control center
- Service available 24 hours a day, seven days a week

### *Home-Delivered Services*

- Skilled nursing services
- Physical, speech and occupational therapy
- Medical social services and home health aide assistance
- Personal care and assistance with meals

### *Personal Support Services*

- Assistance with meal preparation, hygiene and nutrition
- Light housekeeping, necessary errands, and other support services
- In-home respite care provided by an aide

### *Consumer-Directed Personal Support Services option*

Same as Personal Support Services, except:

- Consumer hires and supervises worker(s) of choice
- Clients enrolled in the option are required to choose a Financial Management Services provider that will issue paychecks and adhere to federal and state tax laws on behalf of the client

### *Structured Family Caregiver*

- Provides support, education and oversight on behalf of waiver members whose family caregiver lives in the home with the member.
- Live-in family member works with SFC provider's health coach while supporting the member to maximize the highest level of independence for the member by providing necessary care and support.

### *Out-of-Home Respite Care*

- Out-of-home overnight respite care in an approved facility with 24-hour supervision

### *Home Delivered Meals*

- Prepared outside the home and delivered to the client

### *Case Management (Enhanced and Traditional)*

- Process which includes assessing, implementing, coordinating, monitoring, evaluating options and services required to meet individual needs and making referrals as needed

## Who is eligible for EDWP?

The eligibility criteria for EDWP include the following:

- Functional impairment caused by physical limitations  
NOTE: Alzheimer's and dementia are physical conditions.
- Unmet need for care
- Approval of an intermediate level of care (LOC) certification for nursing home placement
- Approval of care plan by client's physician
- Medicaid eligible or potentially eligible after admission to EDWP
- Client chooses community-based, rather than institutional services
- Services fall within the average annual cost of Medicaid reimbursed care provided in a nursing facility. Health and safety needs can be met by EDWP
- Participation in one waiver program at a time
- Medicare home health services or hospice (Medicare or Medicaid) does not meet consumer need for services
- Home Delivered Meals is not the only service need
- The home environment is free of illegal behavior and threats of bodily harm to other persons.

A client is not required to be homebound to receive EDWP services.

## How does an individual obtain EDWP Services?

Step 1: The individual contacts the Area Agency on Aging for an EDWP assessment for Traditional/Enhanced care. The individual with active full Medicaid can contact the AAA or a SOURCE site for assessment.

Step 2: If the individual is eligible for EDWP, the care coordinator and the member/representative collaborate to determine which services the applicant needs.

## How are services arranged?

Step 1: The case management arranges for EDWP service agencies to provide the needed services. Service agencies are approved Medicaid providers

## What are the financial eligibility requirements?

The following information summarizes the financial eligibility criteria for the EDWP.

- SSI category: Persons who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and are eligible for medical assistance. The Social Security Administration takes applications for SSI.
- Medical Assistance Only (MAO) category: Persons who do not receive cash benefits under the SSI program may qualify for medical assistance under another Medicaid category. The county Departments of Family and Children Services take applications for MAO. MAO participants may have to pay toward the cost of services.

who bill the Department of Community Health directly for services rendered to EDWP clients. Care coordinators also arrange for client services through other service agencies and fund sources.

Step 2: If the individual is not a Medicaid recipient, she/he applies for Medicaid at the local county office of the Division of Family and Children Services.

Step 3: The case management maintains regular contact with EDWP clients to assure that services are appropriate and that individuals' needs are met. Client /family representative participates in the development of the client care plan.

	<u><b>SSI Income Limits:*</b></u>	<u><b>Waiver Medicaid/ MAO Income Limits:</b></u>	<u><b>SSI and Waiver Medicaid Resource Limits:</b></u>
Individual	Below \$943/ Month	\$2,829/month	\$2,000 or less
Couple (both in EDWP)	Below \$1,415/ Month	\$2,829/month per individual	\$3,000 or less
Individual in EDWP, But married	Below \$1,415/Month	\$2,829/month	\$2,000 or less for SSI \$154,140 (combined) or less for EDWP Medicaid**

\* These limits change when the Social Security Administration increases Social Security and SSI.

\*\* If the EDWP Medicaid applicant has a spouse who is neither in EDWP nor in an institution, the assets of the spouse MUST be considered in the eligibility determination. The combined total of **countable** assets of the individual and the spouse must be \$154,140 or less. The EDWP client must transfer assets in his/her name in excess of \$2,000 to the community spouse within one year from the month Medicaid eligibility begins. A waiver Medicaid eligible person may divert up to \$3853.50 per month of income to a legal spouse who is neither in the EDWP nor an institution. The legal spouse's income is deducted from the \$3853.50 limit before determining the amount of income to divert.

# Elderly and Disabled Waiver

## Aging and Disability Resource Connection and Geographic Service Areas

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Listed below are Georgia's 12 Planning & Service Areas. Each agency, called Area Agency on Aging (AAA), coordinates a variety of services and resource information for the elderly and disabled, including assessment and referral to programs including EDWP (Traditional/Enhanced + Source). The AAA serves as the EDWP's entry point, determines both consumer eligibility and the type of services needed.

### **ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION**

EDWP Information- (404) 463-3333 (Atlanta)  
Area Agency on Aging- (404) 463-3100 (Atlanta)  
Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette,  
Fulton, Gwinnett, Rockdale, and Henry.

### **CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER**

EDWP Information- 1-888-922-4464 or (706) 210-2018  
Area Agency on Aging (706) 210-2018 (Augusta)  
Burke, Columbia, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Jenkins,  
Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro,  
Warren, Washington and Wilkes.

### **COASTAL GEORGIA**

EDWP Information - 1-800-580-6860  
Area Agency on Aging- (912) 437-0800  
Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn,  
Liberty, Long and McIntosh.

### **HEART OF GEORGIA /ALTAMAHA**

EDWP Information - 1-888-367-9913 or (912) 367-3648  
Area Agency on Aging - (912) 367-3648 (Baxley)  
Appling, Bleckley, Candler, Dodge, Emanuel, Evans, Jeff  
Davis, Johnson, Laurens, Montgomery, Tattnall, Telfair,  
Toombs, Treutlen, Wayne, Wheeler and Wilcox.

### **LEGACY LINK**

EDWP Information- 1-800-845-LINK or (770) 538-2650  
Area Agency on Aging - (770) 538-2650 (Oakwood)  
Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart,  
Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White.

### **MIDDLE GEORGIA**

EDWP Information- (478) 751-6466  
Area Agency on Aging (478) 751-6466 or 1-888-548-1456  
Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Monroe,  
Peach, Pulaski, Putnam, Twiggs and Wilkinson.

### **NORTHEAST GEORGIA**

EDWP Information-1-800-474-7540 or (706) 583-2546  
Area Agency on Agency - (706) 583-2546 (Athens)  
Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Jasper,  
Madison, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe and  
Walton.

### **NORTHWEST GEORGIA**

EDWP Information - 1-800-759-2963 or (706) 802-5506  
Area Agency on Aging- (706) 295-6485  
Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer,  
Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk,  
Walker and Whitfield.

### **RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION**

EDWP Information- (706) 256-2900 or 1-800-615-4379  
Area Agency on Aging- (706) 256-2900 (Columbus)  
Chattahoochee, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Harris, Macon,  
Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart,  
Sumter, Talbot, Taylor and Webster.

### **SOUTHERN GEORGIA**

EDWP Information- (912) 287-5888 or 1-888-732-4464  
Area Agency on Aging - (912) 285-6097(Waycross)  
Atkinson, Bacon, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brantley, Brooks,  
Charlton, Clinch, Coffee, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Lanier,  
Lowndes, Pierce, Tift, Turner and Ware.

### **SOUTHWEST GEORGIA (SOWEGA)**

EDWP Information- (229) 432-1124 (Albany)  
Area Agency on Aging- 1-800-282-6612 or  
(229) 432-1124 (Albany)  
Baker, Calhoun, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early,  
Grady, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Terrell, Thomas  
and Worth.

### **THREE RIVERS REGIONAL COMMISSION**

EDWP Information/Area Agency on Aging –  
1-866-854-5652 or 678-552-2838 (Franklin)  
Butts, Carroll, Coweta, Heard, Lamar, Meriwether, Pike,  
Spalding, Troup and Upson.