

Understanding Kentucky's Home and Community Based Services – 1915(c) CHIL^D Waiver Application



What is included in the proposed 1915(c) CHIL^D Waiver? June 2025

Overview:

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS or The Cabinet) is developing the Community Health for Improved Lives and Development (CHIL^D) 1915(c) waiver to serve children and youth until the age of 21 who meet a Hospital-Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility (PRTF) or Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) level of care. The primary goal of the CHIL^D 1915(c) program is to keep children, youth, and young adults with multi-system needs and complexities safe, healthy, and, to the extent feasible, independent, within their communities and families. Additionally, the CHIL^D waiver aims to serve children, youth, and young adults regardless of custody arrangement and is dedicated to a holistic approach to addressing high-intensity needs with a support system as determined by the enrolled participant. Priority enrollment is granted to children who are in the State's custody, at risk of being unhoused or are currently unhoused, or are leaving an institutional setting. The 1915(c) CHIL^D waiver aims to advance the legislative priorities outlined in [House Bill 6](#), which allocated funding to develop a new home and community-based services (HCBS) 1915(c) waiver.

The Cabinet must hold a **30-day public comment period** before submitting the 1915(c) waiver application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services (CMS) for approval. The public comment period for the 1915(c) CHIL^D Waiver will take place from June 16, 2025, to July 15, 2025. For reference during the public comment period, the table below outlines the sections of the 1915(c) waiver:

1915(c) CHIL ^D Waiver Application Sections	
Section Name	Overview of Key Contents
Administration and Operations	<p>The Administration and Operations section of the 1915(c) waiver covers the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The state agencies responsible for operating the 1915(c) waiver and the distribution of operational and administrative functions.2. The standards for monitoring performance and methods to remediate identified problems.

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Target Group of Individuals to Be Served	<p>The Participant Access and Eligibility section covers the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The target group of and criteria for individuals that will be served annually by the 1915(c) waiver.2. Transition planning procedures for the individuals who will transition from the CHILD waiver to another program.3. The projected number of individuals to be served by the 1915(c) waiver annually.4. The Medicaid eligibility groups to be served by the 1915(c) waiver.5. The financial eligibility criteria for individuals to be served by the 1915(c) waiver, including details on the optional categorically needy groups covered under the 1915(c) waiver.6. The level of care criteria for the individuals to be served by the 1915(c) waiver and the assessment instrument used.7. The process for determining level of care and the performance measures used for monitoring and remediation.8. Ensuring the individual's freedom of choice and access to services.

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Services	<p>The Services section of the 1915(c) waiver application provides a detailed summary of each service, including the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Each service title and a detailed overview of each service definition.2. As applicable, limits on the amount, duration, or scope of the service offering.3. The provider type, license(s), certification(s), and any additional standards that a provider must meet to offer 1915(c) waiver services
Person-Centered Planning & Service Delivery	<p>The Person-Centered Planning and Service Delivery section covers the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Responsibility and requirements for service plan development, including safeguards.2. Overview of the process for the case manager to provide support and information to the participant to develop their Person-Centered Service Plan (PCSP), including ensuring informed choice of providers, and service plan review and update requirements.3. Responsibility for service plan implementation and monitoring, including the methods to perform quality assurance and any needed remediation.

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Participant Rights	<p>The Participant Rights section addresses the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Describes how Kentucky will provide participants the opportunity to request a fair hearing.2. Describes how participants are informed of and given the opportunity to pursue an additional dispute resolution process.3. Identifies the state agency responsible for operation of the grievance and compliant system for 1915(c) waiver participants and describes the system and process.

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Participant Safeguards	<p>The Participant Safeguards section covers the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Describes the critical event or incident reporting process.2. Provides definitions of reportable incident types.3. Describes incident report timeframes and reporting methods.4. Describes the participant training and education process concerning protections from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.5. Identifies the state agency with responsibility for review and response to critical events or incidents and for oversight.6. Addresses participant safeguards concerning the use of restraints and restrictive interventions.7. Identifies the entity responsible for medication management and follow-up, the process that must be followed, and medication error reporting.8. Identifies quality improvement responsibilities, performance measures, and the strategies and methods used to identify and address problems and issues within the 1915(c) waiver program.

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Financial Accountability	<p>The Financial Accountability section of the 1915(c) CHILD waiver covers the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identifies the entity that is responsible for assuring financial integrity and describes the methods employed, including performance measures.2. Describes the methods that are employed to establish provider payment rates for waiver services and the entity responsible for rate determination.3. Describes the claims billing and validation process.4. Addresses participant copayment for services and other cost-sharing requirements.
Cost Neutrality Demonstration	<p>The Cost Neutrality Demonstration section of the 1915(c) provides detail on Kentucky's calculation for providing assurance that the waiver program is cost neutral in the aggregate.</p>

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Please note that this document is a supplement to the 1915(c) CHILD waiver application and should be used to assist the public in reviewing the completed application and making a public comment. The proposed waiver application is available for review. All materials are posted on the DMS Division of Long-Term Services and Supports website at <https://bit.ly/KYMedicaidLTSSInfo>.