



ASSISTED LIVING WAIVER

PLEASE NOTE - ALW Capacity and Waitlist

The California DHCS ALW reached capacity for this waiver program in early 2017 and implemented a wait list for the program that began May 2017. If you believe you meet all of the following eligibility requirements listed below, and would like to be added to the ALW Statewide waitlist, please complete the Waitlist Request application and return it to: info@guidantcare.com or fax: 866-844-2678.

Introduction – Goal of ALW

The Assisted Living Waiver (ALW) program is one long-term care option for Medi-Cal recipients. The goal of the ALW is to:

- 1) facilitate a safe and timely transition of Medi-Cal eligible seniors and persons with disabilities from a nursing facility to a community home-like setting in a Residential Care Facility (RCF), an Adult Residential Care Facility (ARF), or public subsidized housing, utilizing ALW services; and
- 2) offer eligible seniors and persons with disabilities, who reside in the community, but are at risk of being institutionalized, the option of utilizing ALW services to develop a program that will safely meet his/her care needs while continuing to reside in a RCF, ARF, or public subsidized housing.

DHCS ALW website: <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ltc/Pages/AssistedLivingWaiver.aspx>

Eligibility Requirements

You must meet all eligibility requirements to be assessed for this waiver, including:

- Medicaid (Medi-Cal) participant. (Individuals with Medi-Cal benefits that include a share of cost should contact Medi-Cal to discuss spend down options);
- Require and are compliant to multiple hands-on assistance such as: mobility, bathing, toileting, dressing, grooming, eating and taking medicines;
- Have care needs that can be safely met in a residential care facility setting.
- Total monthly income must not be greater than approximately \$1450. and your resources do not have a value greater than \$2,000.
- Must be able to pay the established monthly room and board payment.
- Cannot be a Medi-Cal participant in Cal MediConnect, SCAN or PACE plans.
- Cannot apply with multiple Care Coordination Agencies to be added to the waitlist.

Financial Considerations - Monthly Room and Board

As an assisted living waiver consumer, **you are responsible to pay the established monthly room and board directly to the facility each month.** You will keep a monthly personal needs allowance to use at your discretion. The ALW pays only for the daily care received while residing at an approved participating facility.

For 2019, those with income of \$1,194.37, monthly room and board is \$1,058.37 and those with income of \$1,214.37 or greater, monthly room and board is \$1,078.37.

If your income is less than the established room and board fee, contact the local Social Security Administration office and apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI), though this won't necessarily guarantee additional income.

Determining Medi-Cal Eligibility

Assisted Living Waiver (ALW) eligible individuals are those who are enrolled in Medi-Cal and meet the level of care provided in a nursing facility due to their medical needs. Individuals with Medi-Cal benefits that include a share of cost may not be enrolled in the ALW. Please note: the state does not determine eligibility for Medi-Cal benefits.

Please contact your local county office to obtain information about how to apply for Medi-Cal benefits. <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medi-cal/Pages/ApplyforMedi-Cal.aspx>

Link to list of county Medi-Cal offices:

<https://dhs.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dhs/coverageoptions/medical/>

1. You must apply for Medi-Cal through the Medi-Cal Office in your present county of residence. You may take this flyer with you as some counties may need this information to help you.
2. You must provide verification of your income and your resources. For participation in the ALW Program, you may be eligible if your income is not more than approximately \$1,450. per month and your resources do not have a value greater than \$2,000. If your resources are above this amount, you will have to spend them down before you are eligible for Medi-Cal and the ALW Program.
 - o Personal property that is counted includes, but is not limited to, bank accounts, stocks, bonds, and certain life insurance policies and annuities. Home ownership is affected.
 - o The ALW Program recognizes spousal impoverishment for eligibility.

Medication Co-Payments

You are responsible to pay all prescription drug medication co-payments, as well as provide your own over-the-counter drugs.

Services

Assisted Living Services that are required by state statutes and regulations to be provided or coordinated must include, but are not limited to:

- Developing a Service Plan for each resident that details the needs of the resident, the provider of the service and, the frequency and timing of assessments. Residents/Responsible party must be a part of the process and must sign the Service Plan;
- Providing personal care and assistance with ADLs sufficient to meet both the scheduled and unscheduled needs of the residents;
- Washing, drying and folding all laundry;
- Performing all necessary housekeeping tasks;
- Maintaining the facility;
- Providing three meals per day plus snacks. Food must meet minimum daily nutritional requirements;
- Providing intermittent skilled nursing services as required by residents, and in accordance with State law, providing assistance with the self-administration of medications or, as necessary, administering medications (Assisted living does not generally provide ongoing, 24-hour skilled nursing);
- Providing or coordinating transportation;
- Providing daily recreational activities;
- Providing social services;
- Providing a response system that enables waiver beneficiaries to summon assistance from personal care providers.

A resident has the right to make choices and receive services in a way that will promote the resident's dignity, autonomy, independence, and quality of life. These services are disclosed and agreed to in the contract between the assisted living provider and resident...



ALW Care Coordination Agency

website: www.guidantcare.com

Toll free phone number: 1-844-494-6303

Toll free fax number: 1-866-844-2678

Email: info@guidantcare.com