



MEET THE NEED NC

Changing the I/DD landscape across the state

LAND

*Leadership Alliance for
Neurodevelopmental
Disabilities*

Program of the Mental Health
Transformation Alliance

INNOVATIONS WAIVER PATHWAY

Follow along on this Pathway to learn the basics about how you can prepare to get services for you or a family member who has an intellectual or other developmental disability (I/DD) and what to expect as you go through the process.

If you or a loved one suspect or have been diagnosed with I/DD, we welcome to join us on the Innovations Waiver Pathway. Everyone is welcome. You are not alone. We are in this together. It is never too late or early to think intentionally about the steps to be put in place now, to prepare for you or your loved one to live in the community or at home if that is your choice.



BEFORE YOU TRAVEL THE PATHWAY

The information provided in the Innovations Waiver Pathway is intended for general informational purposes only and should not be construed as professional advice or guidance.

It is important to acknowledge that there are many ways to reach a desired outcome, and the methods, strategies, and approaches discussed may not be suitable for every individual or situation.

As systems change so will the resources in this Pathway.



Go to the next page to start on your Pathway by answering the first question on the Trail. Your answer to each question will direct you to the next Trail of information.

GETTING STARTED

TRAIL #1

Do you or a family member have an intellectual or other developmental disability (I/DD) diagnosis?

YES

If yes, continue to Trail #2.

NO

If no, go to <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/disability-determination-services>.

TRAIL #2

Do you or your family member have private insurance?

YES

If yes, go to Trail #6 to learn about the Innovations Waiver.

NO

If no, continue to Trail #3.

TRAIL #3

Do you or your family member have Medicaid?

YES

If yes, continue to Trail #4.

NO

If no, apply for Medicaid: <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/apply>.

Travel Tip!

Learn why it's important to Act Early at <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/whyActEarly.html>.

Travel Tip!

It's important that you apply for Medicaid. You may be able to get health care coverage through Medicaid even if you didn't qualify before. If you are unsure if you are eligible, you should apply anyway.

TAILORED PLANS

TRAIL #4

Do you or your family member know about Tailored Care Management?

YES

If yes, continue to Trail #5.

NO

If no, learn about Tailored Care Management at <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/disability-determination-services>.

And then continue to Trail #5.

TRAIL #5

Do you or your family member know about Tailored Plans?

YES

If yes, continue to Trail #6.

NO

If no, learn about Tailored Plans here: <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/tailored-plans> and then continue to Trail #6.

REST STOP

TRAIL #6

Before proceeding, it's time to learn about the Innovations Waiver.
Here are some resources to review:

Travel Tip!

The NC Innovations Waiver is a federally approved Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver.

Learn basic information about the Innovations Waiver

<https://bit.ly/3WkJyOq>

View the Local Management Entity/Managed Care Organizations (LME/MCOs) coverage map to find your provider network

<https://bit.ly/lme-mco-directory>

Learn about the Innovations Waiver and how to apply from the NC Department of Health and Human Services.

<https://bit.ly/Innovations-Waiver>

Know your rights. Olmstead is the most important U.S. Supreme Court case for people with disabilities. Olmstead says people with disabilities have the right to live in the community. Know your rights!

<https://bit.ly/3XFQsya>

INNOVATIONS WAIVER

TRAIL #7

Do you or your family member have an Innovations Waiver slot?

YES

If yes, use LifeCourse Tools to help you decide what it takes to live the life you choose to live. This is often called a Person Centered Plan of Care and helps you to advocate for the services and supports that are unique to your needs.

<https://www.lifecoursetools.com/lifecourse-library/lifecourse-framework/>

Travel Tip!

The waitlist is officially called the Registry of Unmet Needs (RUN).

NO

If no, go to Trail #8.

TRAIL #8

Are you on the waitlist for the Innovations Waiver?

NO

If no, contact you or your family member's Local Management Entity/Managed Care Organization (LME/MCO) to see if you may be eligible for the Innovations Waiver. If you are eligible, you will be placed on a Waiver Waitlist. Find your LME/MCO here:

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/providers/lme-mco-directory>

YES

If yes, see our Things to Do While You Wait Checklist:
<https://bit.ly/4edSsUm>

Travel Tip!

The RUN is long but staying on the waitlist is crucial.

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Meet the Need NC is an initiative funded by the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities, that is changing the intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD) landscape across the state. The initiative recognizes systemic change for I/DD community services and supports requires a common agenda. The content from Meet The Need NC aims to provide individuals, families and professionals education and information on intellectual and other developmental disabilities. It is not intended to replace professional medical, psychological, behavioral, legal, or educational counsel. Reference to any specific agency or legislation does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by Meet the Need NC or the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities.

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Meet the Need NC is driven by the Leadership Alliance for Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LAND), a program of the 501c3 nonprofit, Mental Health Transformation Alliance (MHTA). LAND is a disability advocacy organization made up of family members and individuals with I/DD “lived experience” and other professionals dedicated to improving the lives of those with I/DD and their families.

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