

# **THE COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES PROGRAM**

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## **What is the Community Care Services Program?**

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

## **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

### *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

## **Who is eligible for Community Care Services?**

The eligibility criteria for CCSP 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 CCSP
- 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 CCSP
- 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 CCSP services.

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## How does an individual obtain Community Care Services?

Step 1: The individual contacts the Area Agency on Aging for an assessment.

Step 2: If the individual is eligible for CCSP, the care coordinator determines which services the applicant needs.

## How are services arranged?

Step 1: The care coordinator arranges for CCSP service agencies to provide the needed services. Service agencies are approved Medicaid providers

who bill the Department of Community Health directly for services rendered to Community Care 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 care coordinator maintains regular contact with Community Care 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.

## What are the financial eligibility requirements?

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

- 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.

|                                    | <u><b>SSI Income Limits:*</b></u> | <u><b>CCSP Medicaid/MAO Income Limits:</b></u> | <u><b>SSI and CCSP Medicaid Resource Limits:</b></u>                                      |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Individual                         | Below \$733/ Month                | \$2,199/month                                  | \$2,000 or less                                                                           |
| Couple<br>(both in CCSP)           | Below \$1,100/ Month              | \$2,199/month<br>per individual                | \$3,000 or less                                                                           |
| Individual in CCSP,<br>But married | Below \$1,100/ Month              | \$2,199/month                                  | \$2,000 or less for SSI<br><b>\$121,220.00</b> (combined) or<br>less for CCSP Medicaid ** |

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

\*\* If the CCSP Medicaid applicant has a spouse who is neither in CCSP 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 **\$121,220.00** or less. The CCSP 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 CCSP Medicaid eligible person may divert up to **\$2,980.50** per month of income to a legal spouse who is neither in the CCSP nor an institution. The legal spouse's income is deducted from the **\$2,980.50** limit before determining the amount of income to divert.

# Community Care Services Program (CCSP)

## Lead Agency and Geographic Service Areas

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Listed below are Georgia's 12 Planning & Service Areas. Each lead 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 CCSP. The AAA serves as the CCSP's entry point, determines both consumer eligibility and the type of services needed.

### **ATLANTA REGIONAL COMMISSION**

CCSP 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**

CCSP 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**

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

### **LEGACY LINK**

CCSP 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

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

CCSP 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

### **MIDDLE GEORGIA**

CCSP 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

### **RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL COMMISSION (formerly Lower Chattahoochee)**

CCSP 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

### **NORTHEAST GEORGIA**

CCSP Information - 1-800-474-7540 or (706) 583-2546  
Area Agency on Agency - (706) 369-5650 (Athens)  
Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Jasper,  
Madison, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe and  
Walton

### **NORTHWEST GEORGIA (formerly Northwest Georgia)**

CCSP 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

### **SOUTHERN GEORGIA (formerly Southeast GA)**

CCSP 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)**

CCSP 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 (formerly Southern Crescent)**

CCSP Information - (706) 675-6721 or (770) 854-6026  
Area Agency on Aging - 1-866-854-5652 or  
(678) 552-2838 (Franklin) or (770) 854-6026 (Atlanta)  
Butts, Carroll, Coweta, Heard, Lamar, Meriwether, Pike,  
Spalding, Troup and Upson