



Hope and Opportunity in Many Environments (HOME)

Simplifying service packages for Iowa's current waivers

Through the HOME project, Iowans gave HHS feedback that it can be challenging to learn about available waiver services and to find the services that would best meet their needs. Some waiver services have different names but close or overlapping service definitions.

Iowa HHS is planning to combine similar services across the waivers to make them easier for you to use and help you find services to match your needs. Iowa HHS is not removing services, and most services will not change. Some services will have new names. Others will be combined with similar services to make a new service. You will still get the same support, even though some service names will change in your person-centered plan.

These proposed changes will also align service names and definitions across Iowa's waivers. This will make it easier for Iowa HHS to have a smooth transition from the current waivers to the new Children and Youth and Adult and Disability waivers in the future.

Timeline for simplifying services

Starting January 1, 2026, **if your current waiver service is being renamed or combined with another, you'll begin receiving the new, simplified service either at your usually timed annual reassessment or when your services change.** All members will have the simplified services by the end of 2026.

You'll keep your current waiver when your service names change. This is separate from the future change to new needs-based waivers that Iowa HHS is still planning as part of the HOME waiver redesign.



Simplified HCBS waiver services in 2026

This table shows all available services through Iowa’s HCBS waivers. The table lists whether Iowa HHS is proposing a service change, what the proposed changes are, and how each service can help you.

Current service name	Proposed service name starting in 2026	How the service is changing	Service description
Adult Day Health (AH, BI, E, HD, ID)	Adult Day Health	This service is not changing. Iowa HHS is only adding a description of “usual caregiver” to the service definition.	These services offer social activities, supervision, support, meals, and health-related services.
Assisted Living (E)	Assisted Living	This service is not changing.	These services cover unexpected needs, at any hour, for personal care and support for people who live in a homelike setting.
Assistive Devices (E)	Assistive Devices	This service is not changing.	These devices help you with daily tasks, like dressing yourself or reaching things, making you more independent.
Behavioral Programming (BI)	Positive Behavioral Support and Consultation	Iowa HHS is renaming Behavioral Programming to Positive Behavioral Support and Consultation. Iowa HHS is also adding a crisis component to the service definition.	These services help you make personalized plans that support positive behavior and prevent crises. Professionals work with you to create these plans, which include teaching healthy behaviors and stopping challenging ones.
Chore (E)	Home Maintenance Support	Iowa HHS is combining Chore, Homemaker, and non-companion parts of the Senior Companion service into one new service named Home Maintenance Support.	These services keep your home clean and safe when you or your usual caregivers can't. These services include grocery shopping, cleaning, preparing meals, minor repairs, yard work and maintaining windows and doors.
Homemaker (AH, AD)			
Senior Companion (E)			

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Current service name	Service name starting in 2026	How the service is changing	Service description
Consumer-Directed Attendant Care (CDAC) – Unskilled (AH, BI, E, HD, ID, PD)	Attendant Care	Iowa HHS is combining Consumer-Directed Attendant Care (CDAC) – Unskilled and Self-Directed Personal Care into one new service named Attendant Care and adding a description of “usual caregiver” to the service definition.	These services help you with self-care tasks, including dressing, bathing, cleaning, medication management and transportation.
Self-Directed Personal Care (AH, BI, E, HD, ID, PD)			
Consumer-Directed Attendant Care (CDAC) - Skilled (AH, BI, E, HD, ID, PD)	Skilled Attendant Care	Iowa HHS is renaming Consumer-Directed Attendant Care (CDAC)-Skilled to Skilled Attendant Care.	These services, supervised by a licensed nurse or therapist, help you with medical and self-care tasks like tube feeding, injections, catheter care, respiratory support, exercises, and medication monitoring.
Day Habilitation (ID)	Day Habilitation	This service is not changing.	These services help you learn, practice, and improve skills you need to take care of yourself, get along with others, join in community activities, and live well in your home and community.

Enabling Technology for Remote Support (BI, ID)	Enabling Technology for Remote Support	This service is not changing.	These services check if technology can help you and provide tools or systems you need to live independently with support from a distance.
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Current service name	Service name starting in 2026	How the service is changing	Service description
Environmental Modifications and Adaptive Devices (CMH)	Home and Vehicle Modifications	Iowa HHS is combining Environmental Modifications and Adaptive Devices with Home and Vehicle Modifications. Bath chairs will now be covered under the “Specialized Medical Equipment” service, rather than Home and Vehicle Modifications.	These services are changes you or someone else make to your home or vehicle to meet your medical needs and help you live more independently.
Home and Vehicle Modifications (BI, E, HD, ID, PD)			
Family and Community Support (CMH)	Family and Community Support	This service is not changing.	These services help you and your family to use new skills and techniques at home or in the community, such as managing anxiety. They work alongside therapy to help you and your family to reduce stress and improve social and emotional skills.
Family Counseling and Training (BI)	Family Training	Family Counseling and Training is now called Family Training.	These mental health services are provided to you and your family to manage crises, stress and depression and increase your ability to remain in the community.
Home Delivered Meals (AH, E, HD)	Home Delivered Meals	This service is not changing.	These are healthy meals prepared elsewhere and brought to your home.
Home Health Aide (AH, E, HD, ID)	Home Health Aide	Iowa HHS is making a small update to the service definition to explain that these are personal or direct care services.	These services help you at home with personal care, such as bathing, brushing your teeth, taking medicine, and using the bathroom. For the elderly waiver, Medicaid pays for home health aides if other services in your care plan do not already cover these services.

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Current service name	Service name starting in 2026	How the service is changing	Service description
Interim Medical Monitoring and Treatment (BI, HD, ID)	Interim Medical Monitoring and Treatment	This service is not changing.	If you have complex medical needs, Interim Medical Monitoring and Treatment (IMMT) services provide special medical care when your regular caregivers are working, going to school, or in the hospital. Trained professionals provide these services, which go beyond regular day care.
Medical Day Care for Children (BI, CMH, HD, ID)	Medical Day Care for Children	This service is not changing.	These services offer special care for children who have complex medical or behavioral needs. This care helps the child's usual caregivers go to work or school and supports children during times of crisis, like the death or hospitalization of a caregiver.
Nursing Care Services (AH, E, HD, ID)	Nursing Care Services	This service is not changing.	These services provide medical help at home and in the community, following a doctor's plan. A licensed nurse provides these services, which include tasks like giving medicine, helping with exercises, and taking care of skin and wounds.
Nutritional Counseling (E, HD)	Nutritional Counseling	This service is not changing.	These services provide extra support for serious nutritional problems that standard medical care can't fully help with. It helps you manage chronic diseases, weight issues, eating disorders, or special diets.

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Current service name	Service name starting in 2026	How the service is changing	Service description
Personal Emergency Response System (BI, E, HD, ID, PD)	Personal Emergency Response System	This service is not changing.	This is an electronic device that sends a signal to a central monitoring station of trained staff in an emergency. It includes a portable button to carry. It may also be a wearable electronic device that helps a loved one find you if you are lost.
Prevocational Services (BI, ID)	Prevocational Services	This service is not changing.	These services help you get ready to volunteer or work in your community, with the goal of getting paid work. They teach job skills like searching for a job, solving problems, talking to coworkers, following directions, staying safe, and using transportation.
Residential-Based Supported Community Living (ID)	Residential-Based Supported Community Living	This service is not changing. Iowa HHS is only adding a description of “usual caregiver” to the service definition.	These services provide 24-hour support for children and youth younger than age 18 who live somewhere other than their family home. These services can teach youth daily living and social skills. They also include family support to help children and youth return home or to a less restrictive environment as well as counseling with the family to address stress and emotional or behavioral problems.
Respite (AH, BI, CMH, E, ID, HD)	Respite	This service is not changing. Iowa HHS is only adding a description of “usual caregiver” to the service definition.	These services help caregivers take a break by offering temporary care for their loved ones. This care helps the loved one stay where they usually live, and the care can be one-on-one or in a group.

Current service name	Service name starting in 2026	How the service is changing	Service description
Specialized Medical Equipment (BI, PD)	Specialized Medical Equipment	This service is not changing.	These are medically necessary items for your personal use that provide health and safety, such as bath aids, bath chairs and communication devices.
Supported Community Living (BI, ID)	Supported Community Living	This service is not changing. Iowa HHS is adding health, safety and wellness as an “area” of Supported Community Living in the service definition.	These services are tailored to your needs and help you live independently at home and in the community. They include teaching personal and home skills, communicating your needs, helping you join in community activities and transportation for errands and work.
Supported Employment (BI, ID)	Supported Employment	Iowa HHS is combining Supported Employment with Self-Directed Community Supports.	These services help you find and keep jobs that fit your personal and career goals through job coaching, career exploration, and developing job-seeking skills. The goal is for you to have a job that pays at least minimum wage and provides the same benefits as other workers.
Self-Directed Community Supports (AH, BI, E, HD, ID, PD)			
Senior Companion (E)	Companion	Iowa HHS is renaming the companion part of the Senior Companion service to Companion. The home maintenance aspects of the Senior Companion service are now part of the Home Maintenance Support service.	These services provide social support and non-medical supervision in your home.

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Current service name	Service name starting in 2026	How the service is changing	Service description
Transportation (BI, E, ID, PD)	Transportation	Iowa HHS is making minor updates to the Intellectual Disability waiver service definition to add “travel to and from work or day programs”.	These are rides to help you get to work, day programs if applicable, run errands, and stay connected with others.
Independent Support Broker (AH, BI, E, HD, ID, PD)	Independent Support Broker	This service is now optional. Iowa HHS is removing references to timecards and emergency back-up plans in the service definition.	If you self-direct your Medicaid services (in other words, you manage your own care), you may hire an Independent Support Broker (ISB) to help you plan, hire for, and manage your services within your budget. For example, an ISB can help you hire and manage employees.
Financial Management Services (FMS) (AH, BI, E, HD, ID, PD)	Financial Management Services (FMS)	This service is not changing.	If you self-direct your Medicaid services (in other words, you manage your own care), the Financial Management Services (FMS) receives the funds from Medicaid and pays service providers and employees for you.
Individual Directed Goods and Services (AH, BI, E, HD, ID, PD)	Individual Directed Goods and Services	This service is not changing.	If you self-direct your Medicaid services (in other words, you manage your own care), these services offer you items and support that Medicaid doesn't otherwise cover, such as special equipment, supplies, or personal care. For example, they can include community classes or household appliances that increase your independence.

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Example member profile

This sample member profile shows the services a member currently receives, and how the service names will change, and when those changes will take place. You can use this example to see how your services may change as part of the proposed updates.

Jennifer's services in 2025	Jennifer's services in 2026
<p>Jennifer is an adult with mental and behavioral health needs. Jennifer gets help managing her medications and getting dressed in the mornings through CDAC. Jennifer works on healthy behaviors and has a personalized plan to prevent crises. Jennifer and her parents get mental health services to help manage stress, crises, and depression to help Jennifer stay in the community. Some days, Jennifer goes to a day program where she practices skills that help her manage her behavior and live independently.</p>	<p>Jennifer has her annual reassessment March 1, 2026. The reassessment confirms that she is still eligible for her waiver services. Her current support plan meets her needs. During her annual reassessment, her case manager tells her that a few of her services will now have different names. Everything else about her services stays the same.</p>
<p>Services Jennifer received in 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consumer-Directed Attendant Care (CDAC) – Unskilled • Behavioral Programming • Family Counseling and Training • Day Habilitation 	<p>Services Jennifer will receive in 2026:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendant Care (keeping the same services as CDAC – Unskilled, but with a new name) • Positive Behavioral Support and Consultation (keeping the same services as Behavioral programming, but with a new name) • Family training (keeping the same services as Family Counseling and Training, but with a new name) • Day Habilitation (no change)