Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-1: Specification of the Waiver Target Group(s)

a. Target Group(s). Under the waiver of Section 1902(a)(10)(B) of the Act, the state limits waiver services to one or more groups or subgroups of individuals. Please see the instruction manual for specifics regarding age limits. *In accordance with 42 CFR § 441.301(b)(6), select one or more waiver target groups, check each of the subgroups in the selected target group(s) that may receive services under the waiver, and specify the minimum and maximum (if any) age of individuals served in each subgroup:*

Target Group	Included	Target Sub Group	Minimum Age	Maximum Age	
				Maximum Age Limit	No Maximum Age Limit
☒ **Aged or Disabled, or Both - General**					
	☐	**Aged**			☐
	☒	**Disabled (Physical)**	21	64	
	☐	**Disabled (Other)**			
☒ **Aged or Disabled, or Both - Specific Recognized Subgroups**					
	☒	**Brain Injury**	21		☒
	☒	**HIV/AIDS**	21		☒
	☐	**Medically Fragile**			☐
	☐	**Technology Dependent**			☐
☒ **Intellectual Disability or Developmental Disability, or Both**					
	☒	**Autism**	21		☒
	☒	**Developmental Disability**	21		☒
	☒	**Intellectual Disability**	21		☒
☐ **Mental Illness**					
	☐	**Mental Illness**			☐
	☐	**Serious Emotional Disturbance**			

b. Additional Criteria. The state further specifies its target group(s) as follows:

Physical Disability: Individuals must be blind or disabled as determined by the receipt of social security disability benefits or through a disability determination made by the department. Disability determinations are made in accordance with supplemental security income guidelines under Title XVI of the Social Security Act or disability guidelines for the Medicaid employed people with disabilities coverage.

Brain Injury: Individuals with clinically evident damage to the brain resulting directly or indirectly from trauma, infection, anoxia, vascular lesions or tumor of the brain, not primarily related to degenerative or aging processes, which temporarily or permanently impairs a person's physical, cognitive, or behavioral functions.

HIV/AIDS: Individuals diagnosed by a physician as having AIDS or HIV infection.

Autism: Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability that can cause significant social, communication and behavioral challenges. A diagnosis of ASD now includes several conditions that used to be diagnosed separately: autistic disorder, pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified (PDD-NOS), and Asperger syndrome.

Developmental Disability: Individuals diagnosed with a severe, chronic disability that: (1) Is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments; (2) Is manifested before the age of 22; (3) Is likely to continue indefinitely; (4) Results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity: self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living, and economic self-sufficiency; and (5) Reflects the person's need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, individualized supports, or other forms of assistance that are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated. A person from birth to the age of nine, inclusive, who has a substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired condition may be considered to have a developmental disability without meeting three or more of the criteria described above if the person, without services and supports, has a high probability of meeting those criteria later in life.

Intellectual Disability: Individuals must have a diagnosis of intellectual disability (intellectual developmental disorder), global developmental delay, or unspecified intellectual disability (intellectual developmental disorder) which shall be made only when the onset of the person's condition was during the developmental period and shall be based on an assessment of the person's intellectual functioning and level of adaptive skills. The diagnosis shall be made by a person who is a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist who is professionally trained to administer the tests required to assess intellectual functioning and to evaluate a person's adaptive skills. The diagnosis shall be made in accordance with the criteria provided by in the DSM-V.

c. Transition of Individuals Affected by Maximum Age Limitation. When there is a maximum age limit that applies to individuals who may be served in the waiver, describe the transition planning procedures that are undertaken on behalf of participants affected by the age limit *(select one):*

- ○ **Not applicable. There is no maximum age limit**
- ◉ **The following transition planning procedures are employed for participants who will reach the waiver's maximum age limit.**

Specify:

Individuals with a physical disability may remain on the waiver after reaching the age of 65.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-2: Individual Cost Limit (1 of 2)

a. Individual Cost Limit. The following individual cost limit applies when determining whether to deny home and community-based services or entrance to the waiver to an otherwise eligible individual *(select one)*. Please note that a state may have only ONE individual cost limit for the purposes of determining eligibility for the waiver:

- ◉ **No Cost Limit.** The state does not apply an individual cost limit. *Do not complete Item B-2-b or item B-2-c.*
- ○ **Cost Limit in Excess of Institutional Costs.** The state refuses entrance to the waiver to any otherwise eligible

individual when the state reasonably expects that the cost of the home and community-based services furnished to that individual would exceed the cost of a level of care specified for the waiver up to an amount specified by the state. *Complete Items B-2-b and B-2-c.*

The limit specified by the state is *(select one)*

○ **A level higher than 100% of the institutional average.**

Specify the percentage:

○ **Other**

Specify:

○ **Institutional Cost Limit.** Pursuant to 42 CFR § 441.301(a)(3), the state refuses entrance to the waiver to any otherwise eligible individual when the state reasonably expects that the cost of the home and community-based services furnished to that individual would exceed 100% of the cost of the level of care specified for the waiver. *Complete Items B-2-b and B-2-c.*

○ **Cost Limit Lower Than Institutional Costs.** The state refuses entrance to the waiver to any otherwise qualified individual when the state reasonably expects that the cost of home and community-based services furnished to that individual would exceed the following amount specified by the state that is less than the cost of a level of care specified for the waiver.

Specify the basis of the limit, including evidence that the limit is sufficient to assure the health and welfare of waiver participants. Complete Items B-2-b and B-2-c.

The cost limit specified by the state is *(select one)*:

○ **The following dollar amount:**

Specify dollar amount:

The dollar amount *(select one)*

○ **Is adjusted each year that the waiver is in effect by applying the following formula:**

Specify the formula:

○ **May be adjusted during the period the waiver is in effect. The state will submit a waiver amendment to CMS to adjust the dollar amount.**

○ **The following percentage that is less than 100% of the institutional average:**

Specify percent:

○ **Other:**

Specify:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-2: Individual Cost Limit (2 of 2)

Answers provided in Appendix B-2-a indicate that you do not need to complete this section.

b. Method of Implementation of the Individual Cost Limit. When an individual cost limit is specified in Item B-2-a, specify the procedures that are followed to determine in advance of waiver entrance that the individual's health and welfare can be assured within the cost limit:

c. Participant Safeguards. When the state specifies an individual cost limit in Item B-2-a and there is a change in the participant's condition or circumstances post-entrance to the waiver that requires the provision of services in an amount that exceeds the cost limit in order to assure the participant's health and welfare, the state has established the following safeguards to avoid an adverse impact on the participant *(check each that applies)*:

☐ **The participant is referred to another waiver that can accommodate the individual's needs.**

☐ **Additional services in excess of the individual cost limit may be authorized.**

Specify the procedures for authorizing additional services, including the amount that may be authorized:

☐ **Other safeguard(s)**

Specify:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-3: Number of Individuals Served (1 of 4)

a. Unduplicated Number of Participants. The following table specifies the maximum number of unduplicated participants who are served in each year that the waiver is in effect. The state will submit a waiver amendment to CMS to modify the number of participants specified for any year(s), including when a modification is necessary due to legislative appropriation or another reason. The number of unduplicated participants specified in this table is basis for the cost-neutrality calculations in Appendix J:

Table: B-3-a

Waiver Year	Unduplicated Number of Participants
Year 1	3736
Year 2	3736
Year 3	

Waiver Year	Unduplicated Number of Participants
	3736
Year 4	3736
Year 5	3736

b. Limitation on the Number of Participants Served at Any Point in Time. Consistent with the unduplicated number of participants specified in Item B-3-a, the state may limit to a lesser number the number of participants who will be served at any point in time during a waiver year. Indicate whether the state limits the number of participants in this way: *(select one)* :

○ **The state does not limit the number of participants that it serves at any point in time during a waiver year.**

◉ **The state limits the number of participants that it serves at any point in time during a waiver year.**

The limit that applies to each year of the waiver period is specified in the following table:

Table: B-3-b

Waiver Year	Maximum Number of Participants Served At Any Point During the Year
Year 1	3239
Year 2	3239
Year 3	3239
Year 4	3239
Year 5	3239

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-3: Number of Individuals Served (2 of 4)

c. Reserved Waiver Capacity. The state may reserve a portion of the participant capacity of the waiver for specified purposes (e.g., provide for the community transition of institutionalized persons or furnish waiver services to individuals experiencing a crisis) subject to CMS review and approval. The state *(select one)*:

○ **Not applicable. The state does not reserve capacity.**

◉ **The state reserves capacity for the following purpose(s).**

Purpose(s) the state reserves capacity for:

Purposes
Transitions from Institutional Settings
Individuals Transitioning from the Children and Youth (CY) Waiver to the Adults with Disabilities (AD) Waiver

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-3: Number of Individuals Served (2 of 4)

Purpose *(provide a title or short description to use for lookup):*

Transitions from Institutional Settings

Purpose *(describe):*

Slots are available for use by any eligible person applying for the AD waiver and are currently residing in a Nursing Facility, Intermediate Care Facility for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/ID), PMIC, an out of state facility placement or inpatient hospital setting and has been residing there at least four months and is choosing waiver services over institutional services. Slots will be allocated based on the date of application for the reserved slot.

Describe how the amount of reserved capacity was determined:

Waiver slots are based on anticipated movement of adults from institutional placements into community and reserved slots represent .5% of the point in time count for the waiver year.

The capacity that the state reserves in each waiver year is specified in the following table:

Waiver Year	Capacity Reserved
Year 1	65
Year 2	65
Year 3	65
Year 4	65
Year 5	65

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-3: Number of Individuals Served (2 of 4)

Purpose *(provide a title or short description to use for lookup):*

Individuals Transitioning from the Children and Youth (CY) Waiver to the Adults with Disabilities (AD) Waiver

Purpose *(describe):*

HHS will set aside slots for individuals who are enrolled in the CY waiver and will be aging out due to turning 21 but wish to continue receiving waiver services through the AD Waiver. To receive a Reserved Capacity Slot for the AD Waiver individuals must have received at least one waiver service in the six months prior to their 21st birthday or were newly approved for the CY Waiver within 120 days prior to their 21st birthday.

Describe how the amount of reserved capacity was determined:

The state calculated the number of slots using FY24 enrollment data based on when current waiver participants are anticipated to turn 21 with the addition of a 5% buffer for new entrants to waiver services that are not currently represented in the data.

The capacity that the state reserves in each waiver year is specified in the following table:

Waiver Year	Capacity Reserved
Year 1	197
Year 2	393
Year 3	370
Year 4	377
Year 5	486

B-3: Number of Individuals Served (3 of 4)

d. Scheduled Phase-In or Phase-Out. Within a waiver year, the state may make the number of participants who are served subject to a phase-in or phase-out schedule *(select one)*:

- (●) **The waiver is not subject to a phase-in or a phase-out schedule.**
- ( ) **The waiver is subject to a phase-in or phase-out schedule that is included in Attachment #1 to Appendix B-3. This schedule constitutes an intra-year limitation on the number of participants who are served in the waiver.**

e. Allocation of Waiver Capacity.

Select one:

- (●) **Waiver capacity is allocated/managed on a statewide basis.**
- ( ) **Waiver capacity is allocated to local/regional non-state entities.**

Specify: (a) the entities to which waiver capacity is allocated; (b) the methodology that is used to allocate capacity and how often the methodology is reevaluated; and, (c) policies for the reallocation of unused capacity among local/regional non-state entities:

f. Selection of Entrants to the Waiver. Specify the policies that apply to the selection of individuals for entrance to the waiver:

Per Iowa Code 441 Chapter 83 “If no payment slot is available, the applicant shall be placed on a statewide priority waiting list.
The department shall assess each applicant to determine the applicant’s priority need.”

HHS assess applicants that submit the Waiver Priority Needs Assessment (WPNA) to determine if the applicant has a priority need based on risk of institutionalization, emergent or urgent need.

Applicants will receive numeric risk scores based on their responses to the risk of institutionalization, emergent needs, urgent needs, and population of interest questions. Scoring methodology is presented with the questions below. If applicants receive equal risk scores, the position on the waiting list shall be based on the date of application and the age of the applicant. The applicant who has been on the waiting list longer shall be placed higher on the waiting list.

Risk of Institutionalization: A person is considered at “risk of institutionalization” if they report certain risk indicators associated with higher rates of institutionalization.

Risk of institutionalization criteria is as follows:
1. The individual is aged 55 or older.
a. Age 55-64 -Score: 1
b. Age 65 or above- Score : 2

2. The individual has stayed overnight at a hospital in the last 3 months for a reason other than giving birth.
For Adults:
a. 1 inpatient stay- Score :3
b. 2 inpatient stays- Score: 5
c. 3-4 inpatient stays- Score: 7
d. 5+ inpatient stays- Score: 9

3. The individual has visited an emergency department (not urgent care) at least twice in the last 3 months.
For Adults:
2 or more visits- Score :2

4.Emergency Need: A person is considered to have an “emergency need” for enrollment in the HCBS Waiver if the health, safety or welfare of the person or others is in imminent danger and the situation cannot be resolved absent the provision of such services available from the HCBS waiver program. Without intervention institutionalization is imminent.

Emergency need criteria are as follows(Check all that apply) Each Scores 2
1. The usual caregiver has died or is incapable of providing care, and no other caregivers are available to provide needed supports.
2. The individual has lost or will be losing housing within 30 days and has no other housing options available.
3. The individual is living in a homeless shelter, and no alternative housing options are available.
4. There is founded abuse or neglect by a caregiver or others living within the home of the individual, and the individual must move from the home.
5. The individual cannot meet basic health and safety needs without immediate supports. (Not applicable to children under age 18 due to parental responsibility)
6. The individual is in danger or will experience abuse or neglect if the individual does not receive immediate support or services
7. The individual is in crisis and admission to a facility will be expected without supports in the next 30-60 days.
8. The caregiver is in extreme stress or pressure and will not be able to provide for the individual’s health and safety if supports are not provided in the next 30 to 60 days.

5. Urgent Need: A person is considered to have an “urgent need” for enrollment in the HCBS waiver if he or she is at significant risk of having his or her basic needs go unmet, and waiver services are needed to avoid institutionalization.

Urgent need criteria are as follows:
1. The caregiver will need support within 60 days for the individual to remain living in their home.
2. The caregiver will be unable to continue to provide care within the next 60 days.
3. The caregiver is 55 years of age or older and has a chronic or long-term physical or psychological condition that limits the ability to provide care.
4. The individual is living in temporary housing and plans to move within 31 to 120 days.
5. The individual is losing permanent housing and plans to move within 31 to 120 days.
6. The caregiver is unable to be employed if services are not available.7. There is a potential risk of abuse or neglect by a caregiver or others within the home of the individual.
8. The individual has behaviors that put the applicant at risk.
9. The individual has behaviors that put others at risk.
10. The individual is at risk of facility placement when needs could be met through community-based services.

6. Population of Interest: If the individual been diagnosed with HIV/AIDS Yes- Score :1

Applicants who do not meet risk of institutionalization, have emergent need, urgent need criteria, or are in the population of interest shall remain on the waiting list based on the date of application. If the application date is the same, the older applicant shall be placed higher on the waiting list. Applicants shall remain on the waiting list until a waiver slot has been assigned to them for use, they withdraw from the list, or they become ineligible for the waiver. If there is a change in an applicant's need, the applicant may complete and submit a WPNA for consideration at that time. The outcome of the assessment shall determine placement on the waiting list. To maintain the approved number of members in the program, persons shall be selected from the waiting list as waiver slots become available, based on their priority order on the waiting list. Once a waiver slot is assigned, the department shall give written notice to the person within five working days. The department shall hold the waiver slot for 30 days for the person to file a new application. If an application has not been filed within 30 days, the slot shall revert for use by the next person on the waiting list, if applicable.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-3: Number of Individuals Served - Attachment #1 (4 of 4)

Answers provided in Appendix B-3-d indicate that you do not need to complete this section.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-4: Eligibility Groups Served in the Waiver

a. **1. State Classification.** The state is a *(select one)*:

- ◉ **Section 1634 State**
- ○ **SSI Criteria State**
- ○ **209(b) State**

2. Miller Trust State.
Indicate whether the state is a Miller Trust State *(select one)*:

- ○ **No**
- ◉ **Yes**

b. Medicaid Eligibility Groups Served in the Waiver. Individuals who receive services under this waiver are eligible under the following eligibility groups contained in the state plan. The state applies all applicable federal financial participation limits under the plan. *Check all that apply*:

Eligibility Groups Served in the Waiver (excluding the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217)

☐ **Low income families with children as provided in §1931 of the Act**

☒ **SSI recipients**

☐ **Aged, blind or disabled in 209(b) states who are eligible under 42 CFR §435.121**

☒ **Optional state supplement recipients**

☐ **Optional categorically needy aged and/or disabled individuals who have income at:**

Select one:

○ **100% of the Federal poverty level (FPL)**

○ **% of FPL, which is lower than 100% of FPL.**

Specify percentage:

☒ **Working individuals with disabilities who buy into Medicaid (BBA working disabled group as provided in §1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIII)) of the Act)**

☐ **Working individuals with disabilities who buy into Medicaid (TWWIIA Basic Coverage Group as provided in §1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XV) of the Act)**

☐ **Working individuals with disabilities who buy into Medicaid (TWWIIA Medical Improvement Coverage Group as provided in §1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XVI) of the Act)**

☐ **Disabled individuals age 18 or younger who would require an institutional level of care (TEFRA 134 eligibility group as provided in §1902(e)(3) of the Act)**

☐ **Medically needy in 209(b) States (42 CFR §435.330)**

☐ **Medically needy in 1634 States and SSI Criteria States (42 CFR §435.320, §435.322 and §435.324)**

☐ **Other specified groups (include only statutory/regulatory reference to reflect the additional groups in the state plan that may receive services under this waiver)**

Specify:

Special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217) *Note: When the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217 is included, Appendix B-5 must be completed*

○ **No. The state does not furnish waiver services to individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217.** *Appendix B-5 is not submitted.*

◉ **Yes. The state furnishes waiver services to individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217.**

Select one and complete Appendix B-5.

○ **All individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR § 435.217**

◉ **Only the following groups of individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR § 435.217**

Check each that applies:

☒ **A special income level equal to:**

Select one:

◉ **300% of the SSI Federal Benefit Rate (FBR)**

○ **A percentage of FBR, which is lower than 300% (42 CFR § 435.236)**

Specify percentage:

○ **A dollar amount which is lower than 300%.**

Specify dollar amount:

☐ **Aged, blind and disabled individuals who meet requirements that are more restrictive than the SSI program (42 CFR §435.121)**

☐ **Medically needy without spend down in states which also provide Medicaid to recipients of SSI (42 CFR §435.320, §435.322 and §435.324)**

☐ **Medically needy without spend down in 209(b) States (42 CFR §435.330)**

☐ **Aged and disabled individuals who have income at:**

Select one:

○ **100% of FPL**

○ **% of FPL, which is lower than 100%.**

Specify percentage amount:

☐ **Other specified groups (include only statutory/regulatory reference to reflect the additional groups in the state plan that may receive services under this waiver)**

Specify:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (1 of 7)

In accordance with 42 CFR §441.303(e), Appendix B-5 must be completed when the state furnishes waiver services to individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217, as indicated in Appendix B-4. Post-eligibility applies only to the 42 CFR §435.217 group.

a. Use of Spousal Impoverishment Rules. Indicate whether spousal impoverishment rules are used to determine eligibility for the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217:

Note: For the period beginning January 1, 2014 and extending through September 30, 2019 (or other date as required by law), the following instructions are mandatory. The following box should be checked for all waivers that furnish waiver services to the 42 CFR §435.217 group effective at any point during this time period.

☒ **Spousal impoverishment rules under §1924 of the Act are used to determine the eligibility of individuals with a community spouse for the special home and community-based waiver group. In the case of a participant with a community spouse, the state uses *spousal* post-eligibility rules under §1924 of the Act.**
Complete Items B-5-e (if the selection for B-4-a-i is SSI State or §1634) or B-5-f (if the selection for B-4-a-i is 209b State) and Item B-5-g unless the state indicates that it also uses spousal post-eligibility rules for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after September 30, 2019 (or other date as required by law).

Note: The following selections apply for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after September 30, 2019 (or other date as required by law) (select one).

◉ **Spousal impoverishment rules under section 1924 of the Act are used to determine the eligibility of individuals with a community spouse for the special home and community-based waiver group.**

In the case of a participant with a community spouse, the state elects to (*select one*):

◉ **Use spousal post-eligibility rules under section 1924 of the Act.**
(Complete Item B-5-b (SSI State) and Item B-5-d)

○ **Use regular post-eligibility rules under 42 CFR § 435.726 (Section 1634 State/SSI Criteria State) or under**

§ 435.735 (209b State)
(Complete Item B-5-b (SSI State). Do not complete Item B-5-d)

○ **Spousal impoverishment rules under section 1924 of the Act are not used to determine eligibility of individuals with a community spouse for the special home and community-based waiver group. The state uses regular post-eligibility rules for individuals with a community spouse.**
(Complete Item B-5-b (SSI State). Do not complete Item B-5-d)

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (2 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after December 31, 2018.

b. Regular Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income: SSI State.

The state uses the post-eligibility rules at 42 CFR 435.726 for individuals who do not have a spouse or have a spouse who is not a community spouse as specified in §1924 of the Act. Payment for home and community-based waiver services is reduced by the amount remaining after deducting the following allowances and expenses from the waiver participant's income:

i. Allowance for the needs of the waiver participant (*select one*):

○ **The following standard included under the state plan**

Select one:

○ **SSI standard**
○ **Optional state supplement standard**
○ **Medically needy income standard**
○ **The special income level for institutionalized persons**

(*select one*):

○ **300% of the SSI Federal Benefit Rate (FBR)**
○ **A percentage of the FBR, which is less than 300%**

Specify the percentage: [ ]

○ **A dollar amount which is less than 300%.**

Specify dollar amount: [ ]

○ **A percentage of the Federal poverty level**

Specify percentage: [ ]

○ **Other standard included under the state plan**

Specify:

○ **The following dollar amount**

Specify dollar amount: [ ] If this amount changes, this item will be revised.

○ **The following formula is used to determine the needs allowance:**

Specify:

◉ **Other**

Specify:

HHS determines patient liability. Client participation is the amount that a member is required to contribute toward the cost of waiver services. To calculate client participation: 1. Determine only the member's total gross monthly income. 2. Subtract a maintenance needs allowance of 300% of the current SSI benefit for one person. 3. For participants who have a medical assistance income trust (Miller Trust) subtract: a. an additional $10 for trustee fee b. A deduction for spouse and/or dependent needs 4. A deduction for any unmet medical expenses of the participant. 5.Add in veteran's aid and attendance, house-bound allowance, or other third-party payments not counted as income for eligibility. The result is the client participation amount.

ii. Allowance for the spouse only (*select one*):

◉ **Not Applicable**

○ **The state provides an allowance for a spouse who does not meet the definition of a community spouse in section 1924 of the Act. Describe the circumstances under which this allowance is provided:**

Specify:

Specify the amount of the allowance (*select one*):

○ **SSI standard**

○ **Optional state supplement standard**

○ **Medically needy income standard**

○ **The following dollar amount:**

Specify dollar amount: If this amount changes, this item will be revised.

○ **The amount is determined using the following formula:**

Specify:

iii. Allowance for the family (*select one*):

○ **Not Applicable (see instructions)**

◉ **AFDC need standard**

○ **Medically needy income standard**

○ **The following dollar amount:**

Specify dollar amount: The amount specified cannot exceed the higher of the need standard for a family of the same size used to determine eligibility under the state's approved AFDC plan or the medically needy income standard established under 42 CFR §435.811 for a family of the same size. If this amount changes, this item will be revised.

○ **The amount is determined using the following formula:**

Specify:

○ **Other**

Specify:

iv. Amounts for incurred medical or remedial care expenses not subject to payment by a third party, specified in 42 §CFR 435.726:

a. Health insurance premiums, deductibles and co-insurance charges
b. Necessary medical or remedial care expenses recognized under state law but not covered under the state's Medicaid plan, subject to reasonable limits that the state may establish on the amounts of these expenses.

Select one:

○ **Not Applicable (see instructions)***Note: If the state protects the maximum amount for the waiver participant, not applicable must be selected.*

◉ **The state does not establish reasonable limits.**

○ **The state establishes the following reasonable limits**

Specify:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (3 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after December 31, 2018.

c. Regular Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income: 209(B) State.

Answers provided in Appendix B-4 indicate that you do not need to complete this section and therefore this section is not visible.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (4 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after December 31, 2018.

d. Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income Using Spousal Impoverishment Rules

The state uses the post-eligibility rules of §1924(d) of the Act (spousal impoverishment protection) to determine the contribution of a participant with a community spouse toward the cost of home and community-based care if it determines the individual's eligibility under §1924 of the Act. There is deducted from the participant's monthly income a personal needs allowance (as specified below), a community spouse's allowance and a family allowance as specified in the state Medicaid Plan. The state must also protect amounts for incurred expenses for medical or remedial care (as specified below).

i. Allowance for the personal needs of the waiver participant

(*select one*):

- ○ **SSI standard**
- ○ **Optional state supplement standard**
- ○ **Medically needy income standard**
- ○ **The special income level for institutionalized persons**
- ○ **A percentage of the Federal poverty level**

  Specify percentage:
- ○ **The following dollar amount:**

  Specify dollar amount: If this amount changes, this item will be revised
- ○ **The following formula is used to determine the needs allowance:**

  Specify formula:
- ◉ **Other**

  Specify:

HHS determines patient liability. Client participation is the amount that a member is required to contribute toward the cost of waiver services. To calculate client participation: 1. Determine only the member's total gross monthly income. 2. Subtract a maintenance needs allowance of 300% of the current SSI benefit for one person. 3. For participants who have a medical assistance income trust (Miller Trust) subtract: a. an additional $10 for trustee fee b. A deduction for spouse and/or dependent needs 4. A deduction for any unmet medical expenses of the participant. 5.Add in veteran's aid and attendance, house-bound allowance, or other third-party payments not counted as income for eligibility. The result is the client participation amount.

ii. If the allowance for the personal needs of a waiver participant with a community spouse is different from the amount used for the individual's maintenance allowance under 42 CFR §435.726 or 42 CFR §435.735, explain why this amount is reasonable to meet the individual's maintenance needs in the community.

Select one:

- ◉ **Allowance is the same**
- ○ **Allowance is different.**

  Explanation of difference:

iii. Amounts for incurred medical or remedial care expenses not subject to payment by a third party, specified in 42 CFR §435.726:

a. Health insurance premiums, deductibles and co-insurance charges
b. Necessary medical or remedial care expenses recognized under state law but not covered under the state's Medicaid plan, subject to reasonable limits that the state may establish on the amounts of these expenses.

Select one:

- ○ **Not Applicable (see instructions)***Note: If the state protects the maximum amount for the waiver participant, not applicable must be selected.*
- ◉ **The state does not establish reasonable limits.**
- ○ **The state uses the same reasonable limits as are used for regular (non-spousal) post-eligibility.**

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (5 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the five-year period beginning January 1, 2014.

e. Regular Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income: §1634 State - 2014 through 2018.

Answers provided in Appendix B-5-a indicate the selections in B-5-b also apply to B-5-e.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (6 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the five-year period beginning January 1, 2014.

f. Regular Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income: 209(B) State - 2014 through 2018.

Answers provided in Appendix B-4 indicate that you do not need to complete this section and therefore this section is not visible.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (7 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the five-year period beginning January 1, 2014.

g. Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income Using Spousal Impoverishment Rules - 2014 through 2018.

The state uses the post-eligibility rules of §1924(d) of the Act (spousal impoverishment protection) to determine the contribution of a participant with a community spouse toward the cost of home and community-based care. There is deducted from the participant's monthly income a personal needs allowance (as specified below), a community spouse's allowance and a family allowance as specified in the state Medicaid Plan. The state must also protect amounts for incurred expenses for medical or remedial care (as specified below).

Answers provided in Appendix B-5-a indicate the selections in B-5-d also apply to B-5-g.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-6: Evaluation/Reevaluation of Level of Care

As specified in 42 CFR § 441.302(c), the state provides for an evaluation (and periodic reevaluations) of the need for the level(s) of care specified for this waiver, when there is a reasonable indication that an individual may need such services in the near future (one month or less), but for the availability of home and community-based waiver services.

a. Reasonable Indication of Need for Services. In order for an individual to be determined to need waiver services, an individual must require: (a) the provision of at least one waiver service, as documented in the service plan, and (b) the provision of waiver services at least monthly or, if the need for services is less than monthly, the participant requires regular monthly monitoring which must be documented in the service plan. Specify the state's policies concerning the reasonable indication of the need for services:

i. Minimum number of services.

The minimum number of waiver services (one or more) that an individual must require in order to be determined to need waiver services is: 1

ii. Frequency of services. The state requires (select one):

- ○ **The provision of waiver services at least monthly**
- ◉ **Monthly monitoring of the individual when services are furnished on a less than monthly basis**

If the state also requires a minimum frequency for the provision of waiver services other than monthly (e.g., quarterly), specify the frequency:

HCBS waiver services must be accessed by the member at least once every calendar quarter.

b. Responsibility for Performing Evaluations and Reevaluations. Level of care evaluations and reevaluations are performed (*select one*):

- ○ **Directly by the Medicaid agency**
- ○ **By the operating agency specified in Appendix A**
- ◉ **By an entity under contract with the Medicaid agency.**

Specify the entity:

Iowa Medicaid's Core Standardized Assessment (CSA) contractor performs the Level of Care (LOC) assessments. The Iowa Medicaid QIO Medical Services Unit is responsible for making all initial and annual LOC decisions. LOC decisions also include input from the case manager, medical professional, and other appropriate professionals.

- ○ **Other**

Specify:

c. Qualifications of Individuals Performing Initial Evaluation: Per 42 CFR § 441.303(c)(1), specify the educational/professional qualifications of individuals who perform the initial evaluation of level of care for waiver applicants:

The initial evaluation/completion of the assessment tool must be completed by a medical professional (i.e., licensed physician, physician assistant or advanced registered nurse practitioner). Level of care determinations must be completed by a licensed RN, Physician Assistant, or MD.

d. Level of Care Criteria. Fully specify the level of care criteria that are used to evaluate and reevaluate whether an individual needs services through the waiver and that serve as the basis of the state's level of care instrument/tool. Specify the level of care instrument/tool that is employed. State laws, regulations, and policies concerning level of care criteria and the level of care instrument/tool are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable), including the instrument/tool utilized.

All criteria outlined in this section apply to both initial and reevaluation of Level of Care. Iowa Medicaid QIO Medical Services uses the approved interRAI assessment tool to determine level of care.

Iowa's interRAI assessment suite includes the Intellectual Disability (ID) and the Home Care (HC)

The interRAI assessment suite has been designed to be a user-friendly, reliable, person-centered assessment system that informs and guides comprehensive care and service planning in community-based settings around the world. It focuses on the member's functioning and quality of life by assessing needs, strengths, and preferences, and facilitates referrals when appropriate. When used over time, it provides the basis for an outcome-based assessment of the member's response to care or services. In addition to the interRAI assessment questions, supplemental questions may be added to ensure each member's needs are fully understood and captured in the assessment process.

There are three levels of care – ICF/ID, NF, and SNF

ICF/ID

1. IAC 441-83.60(249A) requires the diagnosis of intellectual disability (intellectual developmental disorder), global developmental delay or unspecified intellectual disability (intellectual developmental disorder) as outlined in the DSM-5, using a standardized full battery test of intellectual abilities.
a. Deficits in intellectual functions confirmed by both clinical assessment and individually administered and valid tests of intelligence.
b. Deficits in adaptive functioning in at least ONE of the following areas: Conceptual OR Social OR Practical requiring support to perform adequately in at least one life setting (school, work, home).
c. Deficits in adaptive behavior must be directly related to criterion a.
d. Onset of intellectual and adaptive deficits during the developmental period.

2. Member has a related condition as defined in 42 CFR Chapter IV part 435 section 1010. The condition must be severe, chronic, attributed to specific conditions like cerebral palsy or epilepsy, manifested before the age of 22, likely to continue indefinitely, and result in substantial functional limitations in three or more major life activity areas.

3. Member has deficits in at least THREE activities of daily living such as mobility, musculoskeletal skills, toileting, etc.

Members with related conditions (42 Code of Federal Regulation [CFR] 435.1010) without a DSM qualifying diagnosis of intellectual disability may qualify for ICF/ID facility services when they meet criteria 2 AND 3.

NF

NF LOC is considered medically necessary when ALL the following are met:

1. Presence of a physical or mental impairment which restricts the ability to perform the essential activities of daily living; bathing, dressing, and personal hygiene; and impedes the capacity to live independently. The member's physical or mental impairment is such that safe self-execution of the required nursing care is improbable or impossible; AND

2. Services are provided in accordance with general provisions for all Medicaid providers and services as described within Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 441-79.9.

SNF

To approve SNF LOC for age 18 and older, ALL the following must be met:
1. The member's medical condition requires SNF services or skilled rehabilitation services as provided in 42 CFR 409.31(a), 409.32, and 409.34. §409.31 Level of care requirement.

2. Require the skills of technical or professional personnel such as registered nurses, licensed practical (vocational) nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, and speech pathologists or audiologists; and are furnished directly by, or under the supervision of, such personnel.

3. The daily skilled services must be ones that, as a practical matter, can only be provided in a SNF or an inpatient basis.

Skilled services must include at least ONE of the following (1 through 9):
1. Musculoskeletal
2. Skin
3. Respiratory Status
4. Elimination
5. Activities of Daily Living
6. Nutritional Status/Fluid Balance
7. Drug Therapy
8. Sensory--Motor
9. Teaching/Care Plan Management and Evaluation.

e. Level of Care Instrument(s). Per 42 CFR § 441.303(c)(2), indicate whether the instrument/tool used to evaluate level of care for the waiver differs from the instrument/tool used to evaluate institutional level of care *(select one)*:

- ○ **The same instrument is used in determining the level of care for the waiver and for institutional care under the state plan.**
- ◉ **A different instrument is used to determine the level of care for the waiver than for institutional care under the state plan.**

Describe how and why this instrument differs from the form used to evaluate institutional level of care and explain how the outcome of the determination is reliable, valid, and fully comparable.

The Iowa Medicaid QIO Medical Services Unit is responsible for determining LOC for members receiving services in institutional settings and the HCBS waiver. The review coordinators use the same functional criteria for both programs. The HCBS waiver uses items within the interRAI suite to determine level of care whereas level of care within an institutional setting is determined through pre-admission requirements to include certification of need by a licensed physician of medicine or osteopathy and approval by the Iowa Medicaid QIO Medical Services Unit. Because the same criteria are used for both institutional care and waiver services, the outcome is reliable, valid, and fully comparable.

f. Process for Level of Care Evaluation/Reevaluation: Per 42 CFR § 441.303(c)(1), describe the process for evaluating waiver applicants for their need for the level of care under the waiver. If the reevaluation process differs from the evaluation process, describe the differences:

IoWANS system starts workflow to initiate the assessment for an individual to determine their initial and annual level of care. The assessment is completed by the Core Standardized Assessment (CSA) contractor and is then sent to the Iowa Medicaid QIO MSU.

The Iowa Medicaid QIO MSU is responsible for determining the level of care based on the completed assessment and supporting documentation. The Continued Stay Review (CSR) is completed annually and when the case manager becomes aware that the member's functional or medical status has changed in a way that may affect functional eligibility. The CSR process uses the same assessment tool as is used with the initial level of care determination. IoWANS system sends out a milestone notification 60 days prior to the CSR date to remind case managers of the upcoming annual LOC. The CSA contractor completes these assessments. A case manager or member can request a reevaluation at any time. The State retains authority for determining Medicaid categorical, financial, LOC or needs-based eligibility and enrolling members into a Medicaid eligibility category.

g. Reevaluation Schedule. Per 42 CFR § 441.303(c)(4), reevaluations of the level of care required by a participant are conducted no less frequently than annually according to the following schedule *(select one)*:

- ○ **Every three months**
- ○ **Every six months**
- ◉ **Every twelve months**

○ **Other schedule**
Specify the other schedule:

h. Qualifications of Individuals Who Perform Reevaluations. Specify the qualifications of individuals who perform reevaluations *(select one)*:

◉ **The qualifications of individuals who perform reevaluations are the same as individuals who perform initial evaluations.**

○ **The qualifications are different.**
Specify the qualifications:

i. Procedures to Ensure Timely Reevaluations. Per 42 CFR § 441.303(c)(4), specify the procedures that the state employs to ensure timely reevaluations of level of care *(specify):*

The CSA contactor is responsible for submitting LOC reevaluations of members within twelve (12) months of the previous evaluation. Reevaluations are tracked in the HHS Institutional and Waiver Authorization and Narrative System (IoWANS). An IoWANS milestone is sent out to the FFS CSA contractor 60 days before the reevaluation is due.

One hundred percent (100%) of member LOC reevaluations must be completed within twelve (12) months of the previous evaluation. On a weekly basis, an IoWANS CSR report is extracted to identify overdue reevaluations and sent to the CSA management team for resolution. The CSA management team submits a weekly status report to the designated HCBS program manager for monitoring with conferencing as needed.

A CSR or re-evaluation report is also available through IoWANS to track overdue reevaluations and is monitored by Iowa Medicaid.

Should reevaluations not be completed in a timely manner, HHS may require corrective action(s) and implement intermediate sanctions. The nature of the corrective action(s) will depend upon the nature, severity and duration of the deficiency and repeated nature of the non-compliance. The non-compliance corrective actions may be instituted in any sequence and include, but are not limited to, a written warning, formal corrective action plan, and contract termination. In the event of non-compliance with reevaluation timelines, the CSA contractor must: (i) immediately remediate all individual findings identified through its monitoring process; (ii) track and trend such findings and remediation to identify systemic issues of marginal performance and/or non-compliance; (iii) implement strategies to improve community-based case management processes and resolve areas of non-compliance or member dissatisfaction; and (iv) measure the success of such strategies in addressing identified issues.

j. Maintenance of Evaluation/Reevaluation Records. Per 42 CFR § 441.303(c)(3), the state assures that written and/or electronically retrievable documentation of all evaluations and reevaluations are maintained for a minimum period of 3 years as required in 45 CFR § 92.42. Specify the location(s) where records of evaluations and reevaluations of level of care are maintained:

All evaluation and reevaluation level of care documents are submitted to the QIO regardless of delivery system (i.e., FFS members and MCO members) and placed in OnBase, the system that stores documents electronically and establishes workflow. The waiver member’s case manager is responsible for maintaining a working case file for each member and must maintain the records for a period of five years from the date of service. The case file includes all assessments, both initial and ongoing, completed during the time the member was receiving waiver services. MCOs also maintain electronic case management systems that are used to capture and track all member assessments and person-centered service plans.

Appendix B: Evaluation/Reevaluation of Level of Care

Quality Improvement: Level of Care

As a distinct component of the State's quality improvement strategy, provide information in the following fields to detail the State's methods for discovery and remediation.

a. Methods for Discovery: Level of Care Assurance/Sub-assurances

The state demonstrates that it implements the processes and instrument(s) specified in its approved waiver for evaluating/reevaluating an applicant's/waiver participant's level of care consistent with level of care provided in a hospital, NF or ICF/IID.

i. Sub-Assurances:

a. ***Sub-assurance: An evaluation for LOC is provided to all applicants for whom there is reasonable indication that services may be needed in the future.***

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
LC-a1: Number and percent of referrals for LOC that received a completed LOC decision. Numerator: # of referrals for LOC that received a completed LOC decision; Denominator: # of referrals for LOC.

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If 'Other' is selected, specify:

Responsible Party for data collection/generation *(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data collection/generation** *(check each that applies):*	**Sampling Approach** *(check each that applies):*
☐ **State Medicaid Agency**	☐ **Weekly**	☒ **100% Review**
☐ **Operating Agency**	☒ **Monthly**	☐ **Less than 100% Review**
☐ **Sub-State Entity**	☐ **Quarterly**	☐ **Representative Sample** Confidence Interval =
☒ **Other** Specify:	☐ **Annually**	☐ **Stratified** Describe Group:

Contracted Entity		
	☐ **Continuously and Ongoing**	☐ **Other** Specify:
	☐ **Other** Specify:	

Data Aggregation and Analysis:

Responsible Party for data aggregation and analysis *(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data aggregation and analysis***(check each that applies):*
☒ **State Medicaid Agency**	☐ **Weekly**
☐ **Operating Agency**	☐ **Monthly**
☐ **Sub-State Entity**	☒ **Quarterly**
☐ **Other** Specify:	☐ **Annually**
	☐ **Continuously and Ongoing**
	☐ **Other** Specify:

b. ***Sub-assurance: The levels of care of enrolled participants are reevaluated at least annually or as specified in the approved waiver.***

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to

analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

c. ***Sub-assurance: The processes and instruments described in the approved waiver are applied appropriately and according to the approved description to determine participant level of care.***

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
LC-c1: Number and percent of initial level of care decisions that were accurately determined by applying the approved LOC criterion using standard operating procedures. Numerator: # of initial LOC decisions that were accurately determined by applying the approved LOC criterion using standard operating procedures; Denominator: # of reviewed initial LOC determinations

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If 'Other' is selected, specify:
Iowa Medicaid MQUIDS and OnBase

Responsible Party for data collection/generation *(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data collection/generation** *(check each that applies):*	**Sampling Approach** *(check each that applies):*
☒ **State Medicaid Agency**	☐ **Weekly**	☐ **100% Review**
☐ **Operating Agency**	☐ **Monthly**	☒ **Less than 100% Review**
☐ **Sub-State Entity**	☒ **Quarterly**	☒ **Representative Sample** Confidence Interval = 95% confidence level with +/- 5% margin of error
☒ **Other** Specify:	☐ **Annually**	☒ **Stratified** Describe Group:

Contracted Entity		IA. Adults with Disabilities Waiver 8% IA. Child and Youth Waiver 8% IA. Elderly Waiver 29% IA. Intellectual Disabilities Waiver 49% IA. Brain Injury Waiver 6%
	☐ **Continuously and Ongoing**	☐ **Other** Specify:
	☐ **Other** Specify:	

Data Aggregation and Analysis:

Responsible Party for data aggregation and analysis *(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data aggregation and analysis***(check each that applies):*
☒ **State Medicaid Agency**	☐ **Weekly**
☐ **Operating Agency**	☐ **Monthly**
☐ **Sub-State Entity**	☒ **Quarterly**
☒ **Other** Specify: Contracted Entity	☐ **Annually**
	☐ **Continuously and Ongoing**
	☐ **Other** Specify:

ii. If applicable, in the textbox below provide any necessary additional information on the strategies employed by the State to discover/identify problems/issues within the waiver program, including frequency and parties responsible.

Data for completed LOC is collected quarterly through reports generated through IoWANS, MQUIDS, and OnBase. This data is monitored for trends from an individual and systems perspective to determine in procedural standards. Monthly a random sample of LOC decisions is selected from each reviewer. Internal quality control activity is completed on the random sample. This level of scrutiny aids in early detection of variance from the stated LOC criteria.

b. Methods for Remediation/Fixing Individual Problems

i. Describe the State's method for addressing individual problems as they are discovered. Include information regarding responsible parties and GENERAL methods for problem correction. In addition, provide information on the methods used by the state to document these items.

The state's QIO Medical Services Unit performs internal quality reviews of initial and annual level of care determinations to ensure that the proper criteria are applied. In instances when it is discovered that this has not occurred, the unit undertakes additional training for staff. When an eligibility approval is made in error, the State allows for timely notice and discontinues the participant's benefits. All payments that were made for services, in which the participant was not actually eligible for, are deemed as an error and an overpayment is set to be collected from the participant. The eligibility worker reaches out to the participant at that time, explains to them what happened and encourages them to not use any additional services that will need to be repaid. If the participant is only eligible due to being eligible for the waiver, all Medicaid and waiver payments will be subject to the overpayment. If the participant is eligible for Medicaid on their own right, then only the waiver services are subject to the overpayment recoupment.

ii. Remediation Data Aggregation

Remediation-related Data Aggregation and Analysis (including trend identification)

Responsible Party*(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data aggregation and analysis** *(check each that applies):*
☒ **State Medicaid Agency**	☐ **Weekly**
☐ **Operating Agency**	☐ **Monthly**
☐ **Sub-State Entity**	☒ **Quarterly**
☒ **Other** Specify: Contracted Entity	☐ **Annually**
	☐ **Continuously and Ongoing**
	☐ **Other** Specify:

c. Timelines

When the State does not have all elements of the Quality Improvement Strategy in place, provide timelines to design methods for discovery and remediation related to the assurance of Level of Care that are currently non-operational.

◉ **No**

○ **Yes**

Please provide a detailed strategy for assuring Level of Care, the specific timeline for implementing identified strategies, and the parties responsible for its operation.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-7: Freedom of Choice

Freedom of Choice. *As provided in 42 CFR § 441.302(d), when an individual is determined to be likely to require a level of care for this waiver, the individual or his or her legal representative is:*

i. informed of any feasible alternatives under the waiver; and
ii. given the choice of either institutional or home and community-based services.

a. Procedures. Specify the state's procedures for informing eligible individuals (or their legal representatives) of the feasible alternatives available under the waiver and allowing these individuals to choose either institutional or waiver services. Identify the form(s) that are employed to document freedom of choice. The form or forms are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

HHS is dedicated to serving individuals in the communities of their choice within the resources available and to implementing the United States Supreme Court's mandate in Olmsted v. L.C. As such, services are provided in a manner that facilitates maximum community placement and participation for members that require LTSS.

In accordance with 42 CFR 441.301 and the Iowa Administrative Code 441-90 and 441-83, service plans must reflect the services and supports that are important for the member to meet the needs identified through the needs assessment, as well as what is important to the member with regard to preferences for the delivery of such services and supports. The service plan, developed through a "person-centered" planning process, must reflect the member's needs and preferences and how those needs will be met by a combination of covered services and available community supports.

The person-centered process is holistic in addressing the full array of medical and non-medical services and supports to ensure the maximum degree of integration and the best possible health outcomes and member satisfaction. Moreover, members are given the necessary information and support to ensure their direction of the process to the maximum extent possible, and to empower them to make informed choices and decisions regarding the services and supports received.

During enrollment of fee-for-service members, IoWANS requires that case managers attest to having offered a choice between HCBS or institutional services. Choice is verified by: (1) marking the waiver box on the application; (2) sending a written request asking for waiver services; or (3) verbally confirming the member's choice with the income maintenance worker and the case manager or health home coordinator documents the conversation.

Further, there are waiver informational brochures available to share with members and their parents/guardians. Brochures are available at each of the HHS county offices. Information is also available on the Iowa Medicaid and MCO websites. The brochures include information on eligibility, service descriptions, and the application process. Once a member begins the enrollment process and has a case manager assigned, a more detailed review of services and providers that are available in the area occurs as part of the planning process for developing a member's plan of care.

MCO community-based case managers are required to ensure that members are offered choice according to their respective MCO processes and forms, which are reviewed and approved by HHS. The MCOs provide oversight of service planning by reviewing the service plan to determine if choice between waiver and institutional care has been provided and provider choice is offered.

In addition, HCBS QIO reviews the service plan to determine if provider choice (including CCO) is offered.

HCBS QIO conducts monthly ride-along activities for all service plan coordination and evaluates compliance with service planning requirements, including choice between institutional and HCBS services. Feedback is provided to LTSS Policy for oversight as well as the MCO account managers, FFS Case Managers/Supervisors, and MFP Transition Specialist who then follow up on any necessary corrective actions.

b. Maintenance of Forms. Per 45 CFR § 92.42, written copies or electronically retrievable facsimiles of Freedom of Choice forms are maintained for a minimum of three years. Specify the locations where copies of these forms are maintained.

Freedom of Choice for fee-for-service members is documented in member person-centered service plans and Freedom of Choice forms are maintained in IoWANS.

MCOs are responsible for maintaining records that fully disclose the extent of services provided to members for a minimum of seven years and must furnish such information to duly authorized and identified agents or representatives of the state and federal governments. The MCOs maintain copies of freedom of choice forms in the MCO database and the member’s electronic health Record.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-8: Access to Services by Limited English Proficiency Persons

Access to Services by Limited English Proficient Persons. Specify the methods that the state uses to provide meaningful access to the waiver by Limited English Proficient persons in accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services "Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons" (68 FR 47311 - August 8, 2003):

Iowa HHS adopts the policy as set forth in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act prohibiting national origin discrimination as it affects people with limited English proficiency. HHS provides for communication with people with limited English proficiency, including current and prospective patients or clients, family members and members to ensure them an equal opportunity to benefit from services. HHS has developed policies and procedures to ensure meaningful access for people with limited English proficiency. This includes procedures to:
- Identify the points of contact where language assistance is needed.
- Identify translation and interpretation resources, including their location and their availability.
- Arrange to have these resources available in timely manner.
- Determine the written materials and vital documents to be translated, based on the populations with limited English proficiency and ensure their transition.
- Determine effective means for notifying people with limited English proficiency of available translation services available at no cost.
- Train department staff on limited English proficiency requirements and ensure their ability to carry them out.
- Monitor the application of these policies on at least an annual basis to ensure ongoing meaningful access to services.

All applications and informational handouts are printed in Spanish. In addition, the contract with Iowa Medicaid Member Services requires that a bilingual staff person be available to answer all telephone calls, emails and written inquires. They also work with interpreters if another spoken language is needed. All local HHS offices have access to a translator if a bilingual staff person is not available. HHS includes this policy as part of their Policy on Nondiscrimination that can be found in the HHS Title I General Departmental Procedures in the Department Employee Manual.

Locally, each county HHS office utilizes the resources that are available to them. For example, in larger metropolitan areas, local offices have staff that are fluent in Spanish, Bosnian, and Southeastern Asian languages. Some offices utilize translators from HHS Refugee Services. Other areas of the state have high Russian populations and access the translators in the area. All county offices have access to Lionbridge Translation Services where they may place a telephone call and request a translator when one is not available at the local office. Medicaid members may call Iowa Medicaid Member Services unit with any questions relating to Medicaid, including waiver services. Member Services has translation capabilities similar to the local HHS offices and uses the Language Link to address any language when Member Services does not have an interpreter on staff.

- MCOs must conform to HHS policies regarding meaningful access to the waiver by limited English proficient persons, and to deliver culturally competent services in accordance with 42 CFR 438.206.
- MCOs must provide language services at no cost to limited English proficiency members, and all written materials shall be provided in English and Spanish, as well as any additional prevalent languages identified by the State or through an analysis of member enrollment (i.e., any language spoken by at least five percent (5%) of the general population in the MCO’s service area).

- MCOs must provide oral interpretation services free of charge to each member (this applies to all non-English languages, and is not limited to prevalent languages), and MCOs must notify all members that oral interpretation and translated written information is available and how to access those services. Written materials must include taglines in prevalent languages regarding how to access materials in alternative languages.
- MCOs must ensure that service plans reflect cultural considerations of the member and that service plan development is conducted by providing information in plain language and in a manner that is accessible to individuals with disabilities and persons who are limited English proficient, consistent with 42 CFR 435.905(b).
- MCOs must operate member services helplines that are available to all callers, and an automated telephone menu options must be made available in English and Spanish.
- MCOs must maintain member websites and mobile applications available in English and Spanish that are accessible and functional via cell phone.

All MCO developed member communications, including substantive changes to previously approved communications, must be approved by HHS prior to use/distribution.