STAR+PLUS Home and Community Based Services

STAR+PLUS Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Program, also called STAR+PLUS Waiver, offers an array of enhanced, community-based services for individuals who need the level of care provided in a nursing facility but who would like to remain in the community. To be eligible, an individual must be:

- Age 21 or over,
- Assessed to require the level of care provided by a nursing facility, and
- Medicaid eligible

People who receive supplemental security income (SSI) or who have SSI-related Medicaid may be assessed for STAR+PLUS HCBS at any time by contacting their managed care organization (MCO) and requesting an assessment.

What are the services in this program?

You will have access to an array of long term services and supports, unlimited prescriptions, and a named service coordinator. Long term service and supports include:

- Personal Assistance Services (PAS) - basic attendant care to help you with activities of daily living, like preparing meals, bathing, cleaning
- Day Activity and Health Services (DAHS) - Also called adult day care
- STAR+PLUS HCBS Offers the following services in addition to what is listed above:
  - Assisted living
  - Adaptive aids
  - Minor home modifications
  - Personal assistance services
  - Respite care
  - Emergency response
  - Transition assistance services
  - Home delivered meals
  - Nursing services
  - Medical supplies
  - Adult foster care
  - Dental services
  - Speech, physical, and occupational therapies
  - Financial management services
  - Cognitive Rehabilitation Therapy
  - Supported Employment and Employment Assistance

What if I don't have Medicaid?

People who do not have Medicaid may request to be placed on the interest list by calling 1-855-937-2372. You will be asked a series of questions to screen you for other community-based services they may be eligible for while they wait for their name to come to the top of the interest list. As of June 2016, people on the interest list wait less than 9 months for their name to come to the top of the interest list.

If you have an account with YourTexasBenefits.com, you can log in and go to "Find Support Services" on the home page. Texas Health and Human Services has developed a screening application. Based on you or your caregiver's response to questions, referrals for services are automatically generated, including referrals for the STAR+PLUS HCBS interest list. You and your caregivers may also go to any Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) or Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and request to be screened for services, as well.
I'm on the interest list, now what?

When a slot in the STAR+PLUS HCBS program is available, you will be contacted by the state. You will receive information about the managed care organizations operating the program in your area. You must choose a managed care organization (MCO) to conduct an assessment. **The sooner you choose, the sooner the process for eligibility begins.** This assessment determines if you need to the types of services provided in a nursing facility. If you are assessed to need those services, you will fill out a Medicaid application and submit it to the state. It's important to make sure you fill this out as completely and as soon as possible to prevent delays in the process. Medicaid for the Elderly and People with Disabilities will determine if your income and resources meet the requirements.

What if I'm not eligible?

You can ask to be put back on the interest list. You will go to the bottom of the interest list and will not be assessed until your name comes back to the top. You can go to any Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) or Area Agency on Aging (AAA) or call **1-855-937-2372** to find out about other available resources in your area while you wait for your name to come back to the top of the interest list.