



Information for families of children with special needs

Ages: **0-2** **3-5** **6-17** **18-20** **21+**

DD - ALTCS Arizona Long Term Care System

ALTCS funds long term care services for people with developmental disabilities through the state Division of Developmental Disabilities. People who are elderly or have a physical disability who need on-going services at home or a nursing facility are served by a different ALTCS program not administered by DDD. The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) determines ALTCS financial & medical eligibility. The AZ Dept. of Economic Security's Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) provides ALTCS support coordination and long-term and acute care services. As of March 2008, 19,983 people were enrolled in DD ALTCS; approximately 55% were ages 18 or under.

WHO Is Eligible?

There is a two-step process to determine DD ALTCS eligibility:

1) DDD determines initial eligibility from paperwork you provide:

- U.S. citizen or qualified immigrant
- Arizona resident with Social Security Number

Children Ages 0-5: Exhibit significant developmental disability

Children Ages 6+:

- a) Diagnosis of Cerebral palsy, Autism, Epilepsy, or Cognitive disability, **and**
- b) Disability occurred prior to age 18, **and**
- c) Documented "Substantial Functional Limitations" in 3 of 7 areas:
 - 1) Self-Care (bathing, eating, hygiene, etc.)
 - 2) Receptive & Expressive Language
 - 3) Learning (acquiring & processing information)
 - 4) Mobility
 - 5) Economic Self-Sufficiency
 - 6) Capacity for Independent Living
 - 7) Self-Direction (manage finances, make independent decisions, etc.)

2) AHCCCS then determines Medical Eligibility using the Pre-Admission Screening (PAS) tool.

If approved by DDD, your application is forwarded to AHCCCS to determine medical eligibility. An AHCCCS nurse or social worker will visit your home to do a "Pre-Admission Screening" (PAS) to assess how much your child's disability affects his/her level of functioning. Your child's PAS score must conclude that his/her disability is severe enough to require the level of health care which is provided in a "nursing facility or intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded (ICF/MR)."

WHAT Services Are Covered?

Both health & medical ("acute care") and long-term care are covered. Health & medical services either maintain or restore good health. Long-term care provides "home & community-based" services that include:

- Home health nurse or aide
- Attendant care and housekeeping
- Respite
- Transportation
- Day treatment and training programs
- Habilitation
- Support Coordination
- Institutional care (only with approval of DDD Assistant Director)

HOW MUCH Does It Cost?

No monthly premium, enrollment fee or co-payment for children. However, higher-income families may pay a premium in the future. And, if the child needs care in an institution (instead of home), family may have to pay a share of cost based on the child's income.

HOW Are Services Delivered?

Acute Medical Care: To receive health & medical ("acute care") services, you select one of the health plans contracted by DDD. Then, you select a doctor in that health plan to be your Primary Care Provider.

Long-Term Care: ALTCS Member works with DDD Support Coordinator to develop an Individual Support Plan (ISP) that identifies the long-term care services needed, and describes their frequency and duration. DDD contracts with various service providers to provide long-term care services.

WHAT DOCUMENTS Do I Need?

- Proof of state residency (driver's license, rent or mortgage receipt or bill, utility bills, etc.)
- Proof of Income (Award letter, wage stubs, W-2, tax return, child support)
- Proof of Citizenship (birth certificate, naturalization certificate, passport, tribal enrollment card, etc.)
- If you are not a citizen, you will need your alien card that you were issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- Proof of Identity (day care/school records, tribal ID, doctor/clinic/hospital records, etc.)

See AHCCCS website for specific info:

<http://www.azahcccs.gov/Members/citizenship.asp>

WHERE Do I Apply?

DDD screens ALTCS applications for qualifying diagnosis, then forwards to AHCCCS. AHCCCS schedules interview to determine financial eligibility. AHCCCS nurse or social worker then visits family in person to determine medical eligibility using the age-appropriate PAS tool.

Contact local DDD office to start process.

List of locations available on DDD website:

<http://www.azdes.gov/ddd/contact.asp>