



## Comparison between Innovations Waiver, Community Alternatives Program for Children (CAP/C) and 1915i Services

|   | Innovations Waiver   | Community Alternatives Program for Children (CAP/C)  | 1915(i) Services  |
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| <b>What is it?</b>                            | The NC Innovations Waiver is a 1915(b)(c) Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services waiver for people with intellectual or developmental disabilities (I/DD). It helps them get the long-term services and supports they need at home or in the community instead of in an institution. | CAP/C is a 1915(c) Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services waiver for children from birth to age 20 who are medically fragile. It provides in-home and community supports so children can be safely cared for at home instead of being placed in a hospital or other institution. | 1915(i) services are for children and adults with mental health conditions, substance use disorders, traumatic brain injuries or intellectual/developmental disabilities. It is called "1915(i)" after the law that created it. |
| <b>Ages Served</b>                            | All ages - there is no minimum or maximum age.   | Birth through age 20   | It varies by service. Minimum age for respite and Community Living and Support is 3 years. Minimum age for Supported Employment is 16 years.  |
| <b>Do You Have to Have Medicaid to Apply?</b> | No. Anyone can apply regardless of age, insurance or income.   | No. Anyone can apply regardless of age, insurance or income.   | Yes   |

## Eligibility Criteria

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Innovations Waiver</b></p>                                  | <p>Innovations Waiver serves people of all ages who have a diagnosis of an intellectual or developmental disability (I/DD) or a closely related condition. A related condition is defined as a severe, chronic disability that meets all of the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is attributable to:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Cerebral palsy or epilepsy; or</li> <li>b. Any other condition, other than mental illness, found to be closely related to an intellectual disability because this condition results in impairment of general intellectual functioning <b>or</b> adaptive behavior similar to that of a person with intellectual disability, and requires treatment or services similar to those required for these persons.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. It is manifested before the person reaches age 22.</li> <li>3. It is likely to continue indefinitely.</li> </ol> <p><b>-AND-</b></p> <p>They need a lot of support with daily living skills now, and likely will in the future. These skills include things like bathing, dressing, eating, communication, cleaning, cooking, managing money, recognizing safety hazards, and more.</p>   |
| <p><b>Community Alternatives Program for Children (CAP/C)</b></p> | <p>The CAP/C waiver serves children through age 20 who are determined to be medically fragile, meet institutional level of care criteria, and have a reasonable indication of need for at least one CAP/C waiver service. <b>In order to meet the medically fragile definition, they must meet <u>one in each of the 3 categories</u>:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has a primary chronic medical condition or diagnosis that has or will last more than 1 year</li> <li>2A. Been inpatient at least 3 times in the last 12 months</li> </ol> <p><b>– OR –</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2B. Had a hospital stay for more than 10 days in the last 12 months <b>– OR –</b></li> <li>2C. Had at least 4 exacerbations of the chronic medical condition requiring same day sick, urgent care, or ER visit</li> </ol> <p><b>– OR –</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2D. Requires ongoing specialized treatment or intervention performed, supervised or delegated by a physician (some examples include IV infusions, rescue meds for seizures or asthma or oxygen titration)</li> </ol> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3A. Use of a life-sustaining device <b>– OR –</b></li> <li>3B. Requires life-sustaining hands-on care to compensate for the loss of bodily function (some examples of this include turning to prevent bed sores or incontinence care to prevent skin breakdown) <b>– OR –</b></li> <li>3C. Requires non-age-appropriate ADL assistance (some examples of this include a 2 year old unable to sit up in the bathtub or a 1 year old still requiring head support when taking a bottle)</li> </ol> <p>Source: <a href="https://fragilekidsnc.org/waiver-and-medicaid-services/capc/what-is-cap-c/">https://fragilekidsnc.org/waiver-and-medicaid-services/capc/what-is-cap-c/</a></p> |
| <p><b>1915(i) Services</b></p>                                    | <p><b>1. You have an eligible condition.</b></p> <p>1915(i) services are for people who need support with activities at home or in the community with the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serious mental health conditions (such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, depression)</li> <li>• Severe substance use disorder (such as alcohol, opioids or cocaine)</li> <li>• Intellectual or developmental disabilities (such as Down syndrome, autism, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder)</li> <li>• Traumatic brain injury (such as from car accidents, falls, sport injuries)</li> </ul> <p><b>2. You have an eligible NC Medicaid health plan.</b></p> <p>1915(i) services are only available with <a href="#">Tailored Plans</a>, <a href="#">NC Medicaid Direct</a>, <a href="#">Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Tribal Option</a> or the <a href="#">Children and Families Specialty Plan</a>. 1915(i) services are not available with Standard Plans. Learn more about all the Medicaid Health Plan types <a href="#">HERE</a>.</p>  |

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| <p><b>How to Apply</b></p>               | <p>Contact your Local Management Entity/Managed Care Organization (LME/MCO) and let them know that you would like to apply for the Innovations Waiver for your loved one. To find which LME/MCO serves your county, see the LME/MCO Directory <a href="#">HERE</a>.</p> <p>Each MCO has a different application process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Alliance</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Partners</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Trillium</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Vaya</a></li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Webinar recording</a> on the Innovations Waiver application process (Please note this was recorded prior to the most recent MCO consolidation. Refer to the MCO Directory to find your MCO.)</p> | <p>A referral may be made by calling <a href="#">Acentra Health</a> at 919-568-1717 or 833-522-5429 (toll free) or by faxing a completed referral form to 833-470-0597.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Contact a local CAP/C case management entity in the county of residence of the applicant to request a CAP/C referral.</p> <p>See a CAP/C Application Checklist <a href="#">HERE</a>.</p> | <p>Call and ask for a 1915(i) assessment.</p> <p>These NC Medicaid health plans offer 1915(i) services. Call the number listed on your health plan ID card (or health plan welcome letter) and ask for a 1915(i) assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alliance Health, 1-800-510-9132, TTY: 711 or 1-800-735-2962</li> <li>• Partners Health Management, 1-888-235-4673, TTY: 711</li> <li>• Trillium Health Resources, 1-877-685-2415, TTY: 711</li> <li>• Vaya Health, 1-800-962-9003, TTY: 711</li> </ul> <p>If you have a Tailored Care Manager, they can help you apply for 1915i services.</p> |
| <p><b>What Do You Need To Apply?</b></p> | <p>Proof of diagnosis from a provider that is qualified to make that diagnosis Psychological evaluation dated within the last 3 years for a child and last 5 years for an adult (some are flexible with this timeline), that include adaptive skills scores.**Very young children may not be able to obtain a psychological evaluation and proof of qualifying diagnosis may be sufficient. Some MCOs require an IQ score as well. Additional documentation such as guardianship paperwork, IEPs, therapy reports, may be helpful to submit as well.</p>  | <p>When you contact Acentra NC LIFTSS or a Case Management Agency, they will send you a referral packet that includes a Case Management Selection Form, Consent Form and Physician Form.</p>  | <p>Nothing. You just call and request a 1915i assessment or ask your Tailored Care Manger to set up a 1915i assessment.You can see a copy of the 1915i Assessment tool <a href="#">HERE</a>.</p>   |

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| <b>Services</b>                 | <a href="https://fragilekidsnc.org/waiver-and-medicaid-services/innovations/innovations-services/">https://fragilekidsnc.org/waiver-and-medicaid-services/innovations/innovations-services/</a>   | <a href="https://fragilekidsnc.org/waiver-and-medicaid-services/innovations/innovations-services/">https://fragilekidsnc.org/waiver-and-medicaid-services/innovations/innovations-services/</a><br><br><a href="#">Webinar recording on CAP/C services</a> | <a href="https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/beneficiaries/1915i/1915i-services">https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/beneficiaries/1915i/1915i-services</a><br><br><a href="#">Webinar recording on 1915(i) services</a> |
| <b>Is There a Waiting List?</b> | Yes. The waiting list for the Innovations Waiver varies from county to county, and can be as long as 15-20 years in some counties. See the Innovations Waitlist Dashboard to see how many people are waiting in your county. It is important to note that you are not waiting for an Innovations Waiver Slot, you are waiting to be evaluated for eligibility for a slot. Once your name comes up on the waiting list, the person will go through an evaluation process to determine eligibility. | No.  | No.  |

Have questions? Contact Christy Moore, Family to Family Health Information Center Program Lead at [cmoore@ecacmail.org](mailto:cmoore@ecacmail.org) or use our online inquiry form here: <https://www.ecac-parentcenter.org/contact-a-parent-educator/>.

Sources:

- <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/beneficiaries/nc-innovations-waiver/eligibility-nc-innovations-waiver>
- <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/8-p-north-carolina-innovations/download?attachment>
- <https://fragilekidsnc.org/waiver-and-medicaid-services/capc/what-is-cap-c/>
- <https://ncliftss.acentra.com/cap-c/>
- <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/beneficiaries/1915i/1915i-services>

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907 Barra Row • Suite 103  
Davidson, NC 28036  
Office: 704- 892-1321  
Help Line: 1-800-962-6817  
Email: [ecac@ecacmail.org](mailto:ecac@ecacmail.org)  
[www.ecac-parentcenter.org](http://www.ecac-parentcenter.org)



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