



Community First Choice (CFC) Option

What is CFC?

Community First Choice (CFC), also known as 1915(k), allows states to offer Medicaid attendant care services on a state-wide basis to eligible participants. Through CFC, participants would have the option to direct their attendant care services or to receive services through an agency. Attendant care services are those that assist in accomplishing:

- Activities of daily living such as eating, dressing and bathing;
- Instrumental activities of daily living such as shopping and keeping doctor appointments;
- Health-related tasks such as medication monitoring.

Promoting self-direction is a significant program goal and is detailed in [federal regulations](#). To encourage states to adopt CFC, Congress has authorized a higher federal match on CFC related Medicaid expenditures. Under CFC, Colorado would pay approximately 44% of program costs instead of the 50% it currently pays on most services.

Who is eligible?

Persons using CFC services must already be eligible for Medicaid. CFC does not create a new Medicaid eligibility group.

In addition to meeting financial eligibility requirements, a person must have needs that meet an institutional level of care. In other words, a person whose needs are such that without services in the home and community, the person would be at risk of a long term care placement in a nursing home, hospital, intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities, or in an inpatient mental health facility.

What is happening in Colorado related to CFC?

The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing established a [CFC Council](#), which is currently providing input to the state to be used in determining the feasibility of CFC. Mission Analytics Group, a contractor for the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, has been hired through Medicaid Infrastructure Grant funding to work with the state and the CFC Council to explore the feasibility of the option. A feasibility analysis will be available in Fall 2013. The results of this analysis will be used to make decision on how to move forward.

For more information on the CFC Council, visit the [CFC Council web page](#) where you will find upcoming meeting schedules, minutes of CFC Council meetings and other documents about CFC in Colorado.

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