

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Department of Health Care Finance**



**DHCF Transmittal No. 11- 24**

**Officer of the Deputy Director**

**TO: Elderly and Physical Disabilities (EPD) Waiver Providers Enrolled in the District of Columbia Medicaid Program**

**FROM: Linda Elam, PhD, MPH**  
**Deputy Director, Medicaid**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Linda Elam', is written over the printed name and title.

**DATE: August 17, 2011**

**SUBJECT: Beginning of EPD Waiver Waiting List**

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As you may know, the federally-granted waiver of Medicaid laws that allows the District of Columbia (DC) Medicaid program to offer additional community-based long-term care services to the elderly and persons with physical disabilities (EPD Waiver) has a limit on the number of people who can be served through this program. The DC Medicaid program is nearing the limit of 3,940 individuals that can be served through the EPD Waiver.

Because the EPD Waiver is nearing its limit we are initiating a waiting list as allowed by the terms of the waiver. Also in accord with the provision of our waiver, people placed on the waiting list will be enrolled in the EPD Waiver program on a first-come / first-served basis. Applicants who are currently in Casenet with an approved level of care (LOC) and completed EPD Waiver application will be placed on the EPD Waiver waiting list first. Automatic time stamp approval of LOCs in Casenet will determine placement on the waiting list.

Any individual or authorized representative interested in receiving EPD Waiver services, must contact Program Specialist, Elbridge James at 202-442-5890 who will take the individual's contact information. Within three business days the Department of Health Care Finance will contact the individual or authorized representative for a telephone screening. The telephone screening will ask if the individual needs assistance with activities of daily living (ADLs) and/or instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs).

If the individual's ADLs and IADLs status suggest the need for EPD Waiver services, he or she will be placed on the waiting list. If the individual's needs are not appropriate for EPD Waiver services, he or she will be notified and referred to the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) for other services.

Two important points need to be noted:

- First, it is imperative that current EPD Waiver beneficiaries are recertified timely to prevent discontinuation of the EPD Waiver services and placement on the waiting list. **Recertifications should be submitted at least 90 days prior to the end date of the current approved authorization.** Doing so will allow the application to be processed timely by DHCF and Income Maintenance Administration (IMA) and permit continuous enrollment in the waiver.
- Second, it is very important to remember that this limit does not affect beneficiaries' ability to continue to receive personal care services for up to eight hours per day through DC's Medicaid state plan option. All individuals with current Medicaid eligibility and who qualify for EPD waiver services can continue to receive up to eight hours of personal care aide services per day through the state plan option in accord with their needs-based plan of care.

DHCF is working internally and with other DC agencies to identify other options available to individuals who may need in excess of eight hours per day, and would appreciate hearing any recommendations or suggestions you may have. Please forward those to Ericka Walker at [ericka.walker@dc.gov](mailto:ericka.walker@dc.gov). If you have any questions, please contact Ericka Walker, Project Manager at 202-442-9054.