

Do I have to choose a new Care Coordinator?

May 9, 2016

Easy Read

The Home and Community Based Waiver (the Waiver) helps you do things you need to do every day. This could be:

Something built into your home like a ramp or a stair-glide.

Something you need to help you each day, like a lift-chair.

A person who helps you take care of yourself or does these things for you.

A person who takes care of cleaning or cooking for you at home.

A ride to where you need to go in your community.

A person who helps you at your job or in your community.

Another person who helps you is your **Care Coordinator**. This person helps you choose which services you want and where you could get them.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) makes the rules (laws) about the Waiver. Alaska must follow these rules, like all other states.

Senior and Disabilities Services (SDS) helps Alaska follow these rules. SDS also helps people at agencies who give different kinds of help using the Waiver.

There are new rules, but don't worry! You will still have a Care Coordinator. You can still choose your Care Coordinator and the agencies that give you help that is approved in your waiver. Your Care Coordinator will still help you with your waiver.

There is a new rule from CMS.

The new rule says you are at the center of your plan of care. You get to decide about the help you get, who helps you and how you get it.

The new rule says you should not feel like you have to choose help only from the place your Care Coordinator works. You should feel like you can choose help from any agency. Your care coordinator should support your choices.

The rule says that Care Coordinators should work at an agency that only does Care Coordination.

This is because you may not feel like you could choose other kinds of help from other agencies if your Care Coordinator's agency also gives this help.

It says that if there isn't any other way to have a Care Coordinator depending only on where you live, there may be an exception.

SDS has decided what places in Alaska can have an exception.

An exception means a place (rural Alaska) where:

1. There are no other Care Coordinators except at an agency that does other kinds of help too.
2. There are very few people who get this kind of help in the area right now.
3. There aren't enough Care Coordinators working at an agency that only does care coordination to help people with certain waivers.
4. There is only one Care Coordinator or agency that only does care coordination.

The new rule was made by CMS because your choice is important. CMS says Alaska needs to have all Care Coordinators work at agencies that only do care coordination, as soon as we can.

An agency can have one Care Coordinator, or more than one.

It is important for you to have choices. It is important for you to have a Care Coordinator.

If you live in a place where:

Then:

There are no other Care Coordinators except at an agency that does other kinds of help too.



You can choose a Care Coordinator at that agency.

There are very few people who get this kind of help in the area right now.



There may only be one Care Coordinator who helps people in your area.

There aren't enough Care Coordinators working at an agency that only does care coordination to help people with certain waivers.



There may be more than one Care Coordinator but he or she can only help people with certain waivers.

There is only one Care Coordinator or agency that only does care coordination.



There aren't enough choices for you because there is only one.

This page tells more about a place that has an exception.

If you live in a place that does not have an exception: this means that there are enough Care Coordinators in your area who work at agencies that only do care coordination.

Here is a map of Alaska. It shows which areas have an exception and which do not.

This map is good for the next 3 years.

SDS will decide if any areas will change, every three years.

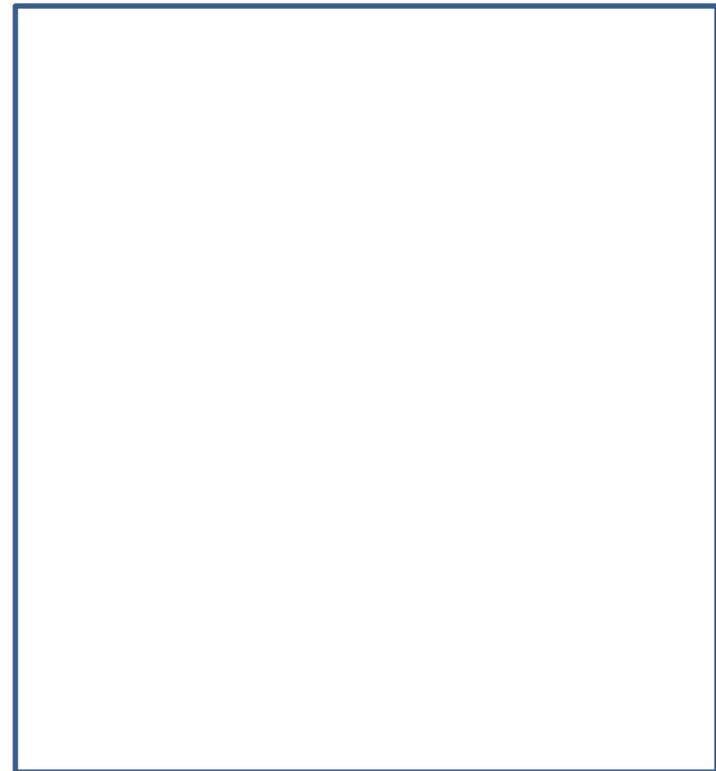
Your Care Coordinator will help you know if this changes.

Your Care Coordinator will help you know if you need to choose a new Care Coordinator or not.

You can ask your Care Coordinator to help you know about your services.

Your Care Coordinator can help you know more about your choices.

Your Care Coordinator is:





CFCC Exceptions Map April 2016 - April 2019

-  Eligible for exception to CFCC
-  Ineligible for exception to CFCC

