

Bureau of Children's Services

Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Waiver Renewal: What It Means to Families

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Circles of Life Presentation

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Today's Conversation

- Describe the CLTS Program
- CLTS Waiver Renewal
 - New services
 - Renamed CLTS services
 - Service improvements
 - Participant safety
- Questions and resources

Waiver Renewal Process

The Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Program is renewed by the federal government every five years – the most recent was just effective January 1, 2022. Each time the program is renewed, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) looks for ways to improve services and supports for children and families.

Let's Unpack This!



Getting to Know DHS

- DHS is committed to protecting and promoting the health and safety of the people of Wisconsin, making sure everyone can live their best life.
- DHS administrates the locally operated CLTS Program. Counties work with families to help them receive the supports and services they need.

What is the CLTS Program?

The CLTS Program provides community-based supports and services from birth through age 21 for eligible children with long-term support needs.

What is a Waiver?

- A waiver allows Medicaid to fund services and supports not normally covered by **Medicaid** to help children stay in their homes and communities.
- Wisconsin must get permission from the federal government to waive certain Medicaid requirements to fund these additional services.

Medicaid Versus CLTS

Medicaid

- Regular health check-ups
- Any medically necessary services and aids

CLTS Program

- Support services
- Teaching and skill development
- Adaptive and communication aids
- Housing-related services

Who Reviews and Approves our Waiver Application?

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Medicaid has rules for waiver programs:

- Outcomes of services must be connected to a child's disability.
- Money cannot be paid directly to a participant or family.
- Money cannot be used to pay for general living expenses such as mortgage/rent, utilities, internet, food.

What Does the Waiver Application Have to Show?

- Protection of participant's health and welfare
- Provider standards to meet the needs of the participants
- Services are individualized and person-centered
- The program overall is more cost effective than what would have been spent on institutional care.

How Often?

- The CLTS Program is renewed and federally approved every five years.
 - Last waiver cycle: 2017–2021
 - Current waiver cycle: 2022–2026
- This is our opportunity to improve and add new supports and services to better serve children and families.

What's Different About This Waiver?

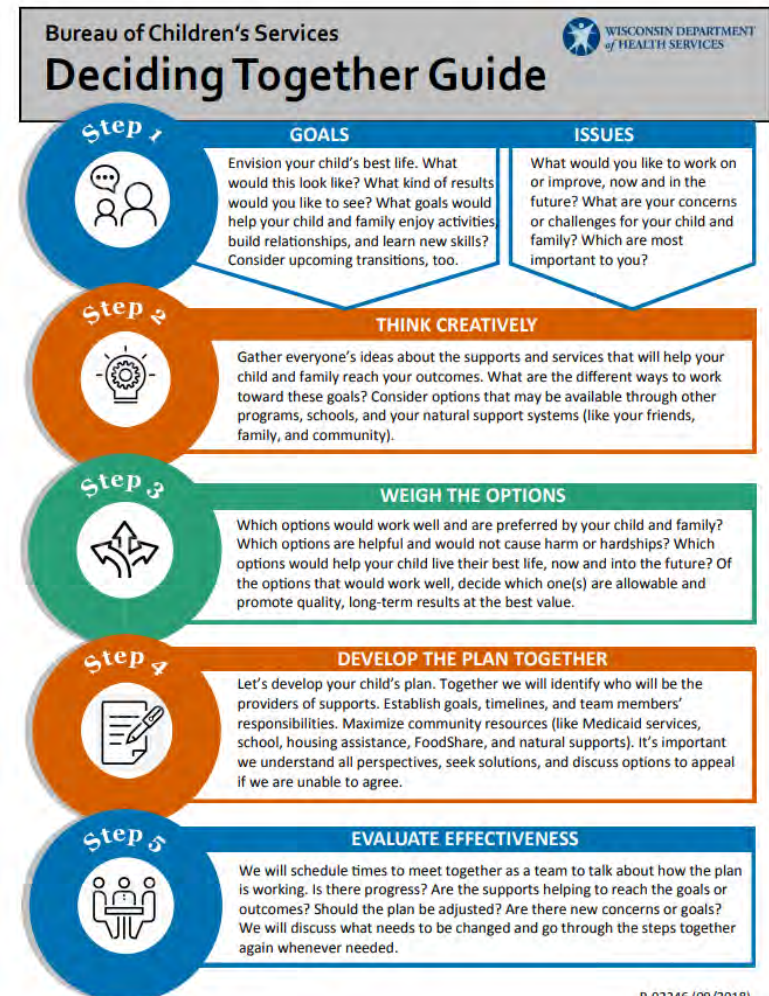
- Lots of planning and listening for over a year:
 - Family focus groups
 - County CLTS programs
 - Partners and advocates
- A review of waiver programs across the country
- Focus on making it different from the adult waiver program

outcome
isp
family
child
team
goal
ssc
need

Deciding Together

What is Deciding Together?

It is step-by-step guide for collaborative decision-making to develop individual service plans (ISPs).



P-02246 (09/2018)

Deciding Together is a Conversation

- ❖ Roadmap for working on what better looks like for a participant.
- ❖ Identifies issues or goals to work on together in CLTS.
- ❖ Creates a unique plan.
- ❖ Sets outcomes and the supports and services to meet the outcomes.



Need

A change that will help a child and family to live their best life.

Goal

Something you want to see your child or family do to live their best life.



Items, Supports,
and Services



Outcome

What the future looks like for your child or family once the need or goal has been met.

When to have a Deciding Together Conversation

Those required times:

- ❖ When starting the CLTS Program
- ❖ During annual reviews
- ❖ At the six-month check-in
- ❖ **Whenever a new need is identified**

When to have a Deciding Together Conversation

Those unexpected times:

- ❖ An urgent challenge
- ❖ A life change
- ❖ A service, support, or item is not working out
- ❖ Progress has stalled
- ❖ A new need has arisen

New CLTS Services

Guiding Pillars

- *Access/Eligibility*
- *Family-Focused*
- *Inclusion*

Communication Assistance for Community Inclusion

- ❖ **Intention:** This service assists the participant to effectively communicate with service providers, family, friends and the general public; decrease reliance on paid staff; increase personal safety; enhance independence; increase community inclusion; and improve social and emotional well-being.
- ❖ **Guiding pillar:** Inclusion

Communication Assistance for Community Inclusion, cont.

Service description: Items and services that facilitate and assist participants with hearing, speech, communication, or vision impairment, including participants with Limited English Proficiency, to maximize the integration within the community.

Communication Assistance for Community Inclusion, cont.

Noteworthy requirements, limitations, and/or exclusions

- ❖ Cannot pay for internet service.
- ❖ CLTS Program funds may only be used for translation and interpretation services when it is not the responsibility of a provider or another party to provide this service.

Discovery and Career Planning

- ❖ **Intention:** Provide participants with opportunities to learn new skills and grow existing skills that will help the participant prepare for employment.

- ❖ **Guiding pillar:** Inclusion

Discovery and Career Planning, cont.

Service description: Discovery and career planning (DCP) services provide learning and work experiences where the participant can develop general, non-job-task-specific strengths and skills that contribute to employability in paid employment in integrated community settings.

Discovery and Career Planning, cont.

Noteworthy requirements, limitations, and/or exclusions

- ❖ Participation in DCP services is not a required prerequisite for community/competitive integrated employment services.
- ❖ DCP may not fund services provided in facility-based settings.

Grief and Bereavement Counseling

- ❖ **Intention:** Provide trauma-informed care to participants and families to allow them to express emotions, ask questions about death, and grieve in a safe environment.
- ❖ **Guiding pillar:** Family-focused

Grief and Bereavement Counseling, cont.

Service description: Grief and bereavement counseling helps the participant and/or their family cope with the possible death of the participant and supports the family after the participant's death.

Grief and Bereavement Counseling, cont.

Noteworthy requirements, limitations, and/or exclusions

- ❖ Service must be both authorized and claimed when the participant is enrolled in CLTS but may continue to be delivered for a period of up to 12 months after the participant's death.
- ❖ Costs associated with funeral or memorial services, or the final disposition of the participant's body (burial, cremation, internment, etc.) are not covered.

Health and Wellness

- ❖ **Intention:** Participants who have their health and wellness supported can better engage in learning, working, and actively engaging in their family and community.
- ❖ **Guiding pillars:** Family-focused and inclusion

Health and Wellness, cont.

Service description: Health and wellness services maintain or improve the health, wellbeing, socialization, and inclusion of the participant with their family and peers in the community.

Health and Wellness, cont.

Noteworthy requirements, limitations, and/or exclusions

- ❖ This service excludes items and services that are harmful.
- ❖ This service excludes activities for which the primary function is recreation.
- ❖ This service excludes the purchase of food.

Participant and Family Direction Broker Services

- ❖ **Intention:** Participants and families have the information and assistance they need to find, train, and manage their CLTS Program providers.

- ❖ **Guiding pillars:** family-focused

Participant and Family Direction Broker Services, cont.

Service description: Participant and family-direction broker services empower and assist participants and families in directing their own CLTS Program services and supports.

Participant and Family Direction Broker Services, cont.

Noteworthy requirements, limitations, and/or exclusions

- ❖ This service is not required for participants and families who direct their own services and supports.
- ❖ The participant and family direction broker may not also be the participant's support and service coordinator and must be independent of any other waiver service provider.

Participant and Family-Directed Goods and Services

- ❖ **Intention:** Give participants and families flexibility, choice, and control over their goods, services, and supports
- ❖ **Guiding pillars:** Access, family-focused, and inclusion

Participant and Family-Directed Goods and Services, cont.

Service description: Participant and Family Directed Goods and Services are services, supports, supplies or goods that address or enhance the participant's opportunity to meet a long-term support outcome, but are not otherwise provided through another CLTS Program service or the Medicaid state plan.

Participant and Family-Directed Goods and Services, cont.

Noteworthy requirements, limitations, and/or exclusions

- ❖ The service, equipment, or supply must not be listed as a limitation or exclusion of another CLTS Program service category.
- ❖ When items, supports, or services are available through another CLTS Program service, they must be authorized under their respective service categories.
- ❖ Excludes items, activities, or services for which the primary function is recreation.

Safety Planning and Prevention

- ❖ **Intention:** Provide trauma-informed and culturally sensitive supports to participants, families, and their providers to create safe environments in the home and community
- ❖ **Guiding pillars:** Family-focused and inclusion

Safety Planning and Prevention, cont.

Noteworthy requirements, limitations, and/or exclusions

- ❖ Training provided to paid caregivers and CLTS Program service providers must be participant-specific and tailored to meeting the needs of the participant.
- ❖ Can **not** fund items, training, services, or supports that support the usage of an unapproved restrictive measure.

Safety Planning and Prevention, cont.

- ❖ Can **not** fund electronic devices or other video monitoring or recording devices that allow an off-site CLTS Program service provider to monitor and respond to the participant's health, safety, and other needs.

Safety Planning and Prevention, cont.

Service description: Safety planning and prevention includes items or services that reduce risk or danger to help keep the participant safe in their home and community.

Virtual Equipment and Supports

- ❖ **Intention:** An alternative to in-person service delivery that allows participants to meaningfully engage in their supports and services and have choice in how their supports and services are delivered

- ❖ **Guiding pillar:** Access

Virtual Equipment and Supports, cont.

Service description: Virtual equipment and supports allow a participant to access other CLTS Program services that are delivered remotely.

Virtual Equipment and Supports, cont.

Noteworthy requirements, limitations, and/or exclusions

The purchase of items and services used for the sole purpose of engaging in telehealth or remote delivery of services covered by programs other than the CLTS Program may not be covered under this service.

Renamed Services



Renamed Services

Previous Name	New Name
Consumer education and training	Empowerment and self-determination supports
Housing counseling	Housing support services
Supported employment – individual	Community competitive/integrated employment – individual
Supported employment – small group	Community competitive/integrated employment – small group
Supportive home care	Personal supports
Training for parents/guardians and families of children with disabilities	Family/unpaid caregiver supports and services

Personal Supports

- ❖ Renamed from supportive home care to personal supports
- ❖ New or clarified types of services available:
 - ◆ Coverage of supervision-related services
 - ◆ Basic and intermittent household tasks
 - ◆ Pest control services

Family/Unpaid Caregiver Supports and Services

- ❖ Unpaid caregivers of a participant may receive education, training, and support that increase confidence, stamina, and empowerment to support and care for the participant.

Family/Unpaid Caregiver Supports and Services, cont.

- ❖ This service includes, but is not limited to:
 - ◆ Training, instruction, or support provided in a participant's home, community, or other appropriate locations.
 - ◆ Resource materials.
 - ◆ Online training.
 - ◆ Family-to-family navigation.
 - ◆ Support groups.
 - ◆ Registration and training fees associated with formal instruction.

Other CLTS Service Package Changes

Transportation

This service funds transportation so that the participant can get out in their community to increase self-determination and meet their goals and daily needs.

- ❖ Not limited to just a CLTS service
- ❖ Must be non-medical and non-emergency transportation
- ❖ Cannot be used for transportation to school

Transportation cont.

Changes

- ❖ Coverage for ride share
- ❖ Parents or legal guardians of participants may be paid as CLTS transportation providers
 - ◆ This is the only CLTS service that can pay parents in permanent policy.
 - ◆ Can only receive mileage reimbursement.
 - ◆ Must use financial management services (FMS) agent because CLTS can't pay parents directly
 - ◆ Must have a current driver's license and current insurance.
 - ◆ All operating and safety systems must work in the vehicle.

Transportation, cont.

- ◆ **At least one** of the following circumstances for parents/legal guardians to be transportation providers must be present:
 - There is no available qualified provider in the participant's region.
 - There is no qualified provider who can furnish services at necessary times and places.
 - The ability of a relative or legal guardian to meet the participant's unique needs.

Waiver Changes to Ensure Participant Safety

Incident Reporting

- ❖ The range of events defined as incidents that must be reported to DHS has changed.
- ❖ Incident management is meaningful and meets federal requirements.
- ❖ Incidents happen and CLTS can support families when they do.

Incident Type Details CWAs Report to DHS Through December 31, 2021	CWAs Report to DHS Effective January 1, 2022
Death	Yes
Abuse, neglect, exploitation	Yes
Use of an unapproved restrictive measure	Yes
Hospitalization due to involuntary or voluntary psychiatric emergency	Yes
Errors in medical or medication management that require medical attention	Yes - Only if hospitalized
Initiation of an investigation by law enforcement involving the participant	Yes - Law enforcement contact or investigation
Event or behavior that causes serious injury or risk to the participant (setting fire, violence, unplanned hospitalization, suspected or confirmed suicide attempt)	No
Damage to the residence of the participant or service provider	No
General Hospitalizations	No

Restrictive Measures

- All behavior, including dangerous behavior, has a purpose or meaning for the child or youth.
- Every child and youth has the right to freedom from restraint and access to trauma-informed, culturally responsive care.
- Restrictive measures are a treatment failure not a treatment modality.

Summary of Changes

Restrictive Measure Type	Currently Eligible for Approval	Eligible for Approval January 1, 2022
Protective equipment	X	X
Mechanical restraints	X	X
Manual restraints	X	
Isolation	X	
Seclusion	X	

New Policy: Incident Debriefing

- **When:** Within five business days of an incident
- **Who:** Support and service coordinator (SSC) talks to the participant and the provider separately
- **How:** In person, on the phone, or with audio-visual video conferencing
- **Purpose:** Gain perspective on the events before, during and after incident and discuss how to prevent in the future

New Policy: Evaluation of the Support Plan or ISP

- **When:** After two or more instances of unapproved use in six months
- **Who:** The full team including the SSC, participant, family, and provider
- **How:** In person, on the phone, or with audio-visual video conferencing
- **Purpose:** Start the process to evaluate and change the support plan or ISP and identify additional resources

Resources

Additional Resources

- ❖ [Children's Long-Term Support Waiver Renewal-Summary of Changes, P-02874](#)
- ❖ [Children's Long-Term Support \(CLTS\) Benefits at a Glance, P-02570](#)

Additional Resources Cont.

- [Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services \(HCBS\) Waiver Manual for the CLTS Waiver Program, P-02256](#)
- [Providers Needed for New Children's Long-Term Support Program Services, P-03182](#)

Thoughts? Feedback? Questions?

Thank you!

Please complete the session survey.