
CHAPTER 30: PERSONAL CARE SERVICES

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OVERVIEW

The Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) established Long Term-Personal Care Services (LT-PCS) as an optional service under the Medicaid State Plan. This program is designed for Medicaid recipients who require assistance with the activities of daily living and are either in a nursing home or at imminent risk of nursing facility placement.

The purpose of LT-PCS is to provide limited assistance to a recipient, whose needs would otherwise require placement in a nursing facility, so that he/she may remain safely in his/her home. The mission of Medicaid funded LT-PCS is to supplement the family and/or community supports that are available to maintain the recipient in the community. This service program is not intended to be a substitute for available family and/or community supports nor is it an employment program for family caregivers. LT-PCS must be prior authorized and provided in accordance with an approved Plan of Care and supporting documentation. In addition, LT-PCS must be coordinated with the other Medicaid services, community services and informal supports being provided to the recipient and will be considered in conjunction with those services.

LT-PCS requires a nursing facility level of care determination by the DHH for entry into the program. The information collected during the level of care screening process is used to determine whether nursing facility admission is imminent.

As part of the LT-PCS application process, a face-to-face assessment using the Minimum Data Set-Home Care (MDS-HC) is performed for LT-PCS applicants who have been determined to meet nursing facility level of care and are at imminent risk of nursing facility placement. This face-to-face MDS-HC assessment is utilized for the following purposes:

- To verify that the individual meets level of care.
- To determine if the individual meets LT-PCS program requirements,
- To identify the individual's long-term care needs and preferences,
- To identify the availability of family and community supports, and
- To develop the Plan of Care.

The services offered under the LT-PCS program are provided by a Medicaid enrolled agency that has a valid Personal Care Attendant license issued by the Bureau of Health Services Financing (BHSF), Health Standards Section (HSS).