

IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR ABI WAIVER SERVICES, YOU MUST:

- be between the ages of 18 and 64
- have an acquired brain injury (not a developmental or degenerative disorder)
- meet the Department's "Level of Care" requirement
- be able to participate in the development of a Service Plan that offers a community alternative to institutional living.

An individual who has a conservator may still be able to participate in the program.

FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY

To qualify, you must meet all technical, procedural and financial requirements of the Medicaid program.

- Gross income may not exceed \$2,022 per month (effective 1/1/09 - changes every January). There may be circumstances when you are required to contribute toward the cost of the ABI services.
- Countable assets may not exceed \$1,600 for a single individual. In the case of married couples, a certain amount of assets over \$1,600 may be protected for your spouse while he or she lives in the community.
- In determining countable assets, the Department does NOT include an owner-occupied home or a vehicle that is needed for employment, medical transportation, or for the transportation of a disabled person.

EMPLOYED DISABLED

You may also meet the financial eligibility rules for the waiver if you qualify for Medicaid through the Medicaid for Employed Disabled coverage group. Under that program working individuals can have income up to \$75,000 per year, \$10,000 in assets and receive Medicaid subject to payment of a monthly premium. See DSS Publication 00-6 *Medicaid for the Employed Disabled (A Tool for Self-Sufficiency)* for more information.

LEVEL OF CARE REQUIREMENT

This means that, without waiver services, you would need to live in a nursing facility, a chronic disease hospital, or a long term Intermediate Care Facility.

SERVICE PLAN

If you meet the basic financial and programmatic eligibility requirements, a DSS social worker will work with you and your person-centered team to develop a Service Plan (see "Person-Centered Teams").

The Service Plan consists of those ABI covered services that will enable you to live in the community. If a proposed plan exceeds the funding limits established under the waiver, the Department will continue to work with you and your team to reduce plan costs to the available dollar amount. If this cannot be accomplished, your name will be placed on the Department's ABI waiting list.

PERSON-CENTERED TEAMS

The ABI waiver is based on a person-centered model. This means that you

PERSON-CENTERED TEAMS (continued)

are the essential participant in developing a Service Plan that will fulfill your needs in the community.

After completing an assessment of your needs, the DSS social worker will assemble a person-centered team to help you develop an appropriate Service Plan and to provide a continuing source of support to you after the plan has been implemented. The members of your team will always include you (and your conservator if you have one), a neuropsychologist, other clinical staff as necessary and any other persons you choose.

QUOTAS AND WAITING LISTS

The ABI program is not an entitlement program. This means that a limited number of individuals can be served. Individuals who apply after DSS has reached its quota will be assessed and, if they qualify for services, placed on a waiting list.

THE INDIVIDUAL AS AN EMPLOYER

Under the ABI waiver, you are the employer of all your ABI service providers. As an employer, you are responsible for hiring/firing and paying your providers and, where appropriate, for paying FICA (Social Security), FUTA (federal unemployment), and other withholding amounts.

The Department has selected Allied Community Resources, Inc. to be the waiver program's fiscal intermediary. This means that they will act on your behalf to help you carry out all your payment and tax withholding functions as an employer.

ABI COVERED SERVICES

A total of 19 services are available under the ABI waiver. These include:

Personal Care Assistance

Homemaker Services

Chore Services

Case-Management

Respite Care

Vehicle Modification Services

Pre-Vocational Services

Supported Employment

Environmental Accessibility Adaptations

Transportation

Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies

Personal Emergency Response Systems

Companion Services

Transitional Living Services

Cognitive/Behavioral Programs

Home Delivered Meals

Community Living Support Systems

Independent Living Skill Training

Substance Abuse Programs

PROVIDER REGISTRY

Allied Community Resources, Inc. will maintain a registry of all providers who are qualified to provide ABI services.

Qualifications for different types of providers are established by the Department of Social Services.

All providers are paid at the rates established by the Department.

Waiver request forms should be returned to:

**CT Department of Social Services
25 Sigourney Street
Hartford, CT 06106
Attn.: Social Work Services
FAX: 860-424-5091**

To learn more about the ABI program or to obtain an ABI waiver request form, call the Department of Social Services office nearest to your home.

3580 Main Street, Hartford
860-723-1030

699 East Middle Tpke., Manchester
860-647-5811

30 Christian Lane, New Britain
860-612-3565

194 Bassett Street, New Haven
203-974-8038

117 Main Street Ext., Middletown
860-704-3040

925 Housatonic Ave., Bridgeport
203-551-2881

1642 Bedford Street, Stamford
203-251-9418

401 W. Thames St., Unit 102, Norwich
860-823-3380

676 Main Street Willimantic
860-465-3500

249 Thomaston Ave., Waterbury
203-597-4145

342 Main Street, Danbury
203-207-8955

62 Commercial Blvd., Torrington
860-496-6900

**This information is available
in alternate formats.**

**Phone (800) 842-1508 or
TDD/TTY (800) 842-4524.**

**Department of Social Services
Publication No. 98-4
Rev. February 2009**

ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY (ABI) WAIVER



**State of Connecticut
Department of Social Services**

**M. Jodi Rell
Governor**

**Michael P. Starkowski
Commissioner**