
Foundational Community Supports

1. What benefits are included in the Foundational Community Support (FCS) program?

- Supportive housing
- Supported employment

Supportive housing

Community support services:

These are ongoing supports to help people find and keep stable, independent housing. Services include:

- Housing assessments
- Identifying housing resources
- Support obtaining a lease
- Independent living skills development
- Landlord relations
- Crisis management

Supported employment ([based on the Individual Placement and Support \(IPS\) model](#))

Supported Employment services help people find jobs (in competitive or customized work settings or self-employment) and gain the skills necessary to be successful. Services include:

- Vocational/job-related discovery or assessment
- Planning for employment
- Job placement, development, coaching
- Skills-building for negotiating with prospective employers

The supported employment benefit will not cover or supplement a beneficiary's wages.

2. Who is eligible for FCS services?

FCS services are targeted benefits, meaning they are not entitlements for all enrollees. Supportive housing services are designed for people who experience:

- Chronic homelessness (as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development)
 - Frequent or lengthy institutional contacts
 - Frequent or lengthy stays in adult residential care
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- Frequent turnover of in-home caregivers
- PRISM (Predictive Risk Information System) Risk score of 1.5 or above

Supported employment services target:

- People enrolled in the [Aged, Blind or Disabled program](#) or the [Housing and Essential Needs program](#)
- People diagnosed with severe and persistent mental illness (SPMI), substance use disorder (SUD), or co-occurring mental illness and SUD
- Vulnerable youth and young adults with behavioral health needs
- People who receive long-term services and supports

People who fall into these categories also must be determined to have a functional need for the services.

3. How will providers participate in the FCS program?

The state has contracted Amerigroup Washington to be the Third Party Administrator (TPA) to select, qualify, and contract with employment and housing providers. Amerigroup will also authorize FCS services and reimburse providers. Interested providers should contact Amerigroup directly at 1 (844) 451-2828 or FCSTPA@amerigroup.com.

4. What providers will be eligible to provide these services?

Providers of supportive housing and supported employment services must:

- Bill for and receive Medicaid service reimbursements
- Provide supportive housing and/or supported employment services, within the state and federal guidelines

Examples of potential provider types may include:

- Appropriate certification for licensed behavioral health
- A contract with the Aging and Long-Term Supports Administration to deliver comparable services
- Demonstrated service expertise and billing capacity
- Details about provider qualifications will be released after a TPA is selected.
- Interested providers should contact Amerigroup at 1 (844) 451-2828 or FCSTPA@amerigroup.com

5. Can FCS services replace existing services?

No. By law, Medicaid must be the payer of last resort. This means that Medicaid funds enhance, but do not replace, existing services. The state must demonstrate how these services benefit people *who are not already* receiving comparable services under other programs or funding sources.

6. How will eligibility for FCS services be determined?

Individuals will be assessed to ensure they meet eligibility requirements and have an appropriate functional need. Need can be demonstrated by:

- Assessments conducted within the behavioral health or long-term services and supports systems
- Meeting specific, functional criteria

7. How are FCS services tied to the Delivery System Reform Program (DSRP) portion of Medicaid transformation?

Supportive housing and supported employment are important tools for the nine, regional Accountable Communities of Health (ACH) as they implement their Medicaid transformation projects. Because of this, FCS providers can play a critical role in achieving better health, better care, and stronger communities. Providers can build partnerships with other providers at the ACH table, coordinating services and building referral pathways. The statewide goals for Medicaid transformation are best achieved through dynamic community partnerships. ACHs are not responsible for paying for or delivering FCS services.

8. How will the services be sustained after Medicaid transformation ends in 2021?

The purpose of transforming Medicaid is to build an integrated, whole-person health care delivery system, that is. The success of this effort will provide Washington State with definitive evidence that better health, better care, and lower costs are possible, now and in the future.

Medicaid transformation will address the complex, costly and interdependent needs of Medicaid recipients. Success will show:

- An overall increase in health measures
- Improved employment statistics
- More stable living situations and a reduction in the use of intensive services
- Significant cost savings
- Healthier people and stronger communities

We believe these benefits can be sustained within existing Medicaid rates beyond 2021 - the end of the five-year Medicaid Transformation.