

BE ACTIVE....



and Understand the iBudget Waiver.



The Arc and Grass Roots Advocacy

The Arc of the United States

- Largest National Community-based organization advocating for, and with, Intellectually and Developmentally Disabled
- 80 years/600 Chapters in the US

The Arc of Florida

- Grassroots Advocacy
- History and Future



Congress Encourages Policy

- Offer states money as incentive to deinstitutionalize so people with I/DD can live in community.
- Congress decides to carve out an exception to Medicaid Act to help I/DD population at risk of institutionalization.
- Congress created Home and Community Based Services Waiver.



What is Medicaid?

- Congress passed 1965 - initially 4 groups
 - Disabled
 - Blind
 - Elderly
 - Families with children (*welfare or AFDC*)
- Goal - create health insurance for certain groups.
- HCBS Waiver different from other Medicaid Programs

Mandatory Requirements

Mandatory Services – **REHABILITATION**
(Services correct the issue.)

Optional Services – **HABILITATION**
(Prevent institutionalization for people with I/DD. Services needed to live in the community.)

Eligibility for iBudget Waiver in Florida

Rule 65G-4.015, eligibility must include:

- Be at least 3 years old
- Resident/domiciled in Florida
- Confirmed Diagnosis of FL Stat 393 Disability
 - Intellectual Disability
 - Autism (*meets requirements of section 393.063*)
 - Spina Bifida
 - Cerebral Palsy
 - Prader-Willi Syndrome
 - Down Syndrome
 - Phelan-McDermid Syndrome



2024 Legislation - SB 1785/HB 1271

Effective July 1, 2024

- Provide APD care navigation services to clients and their caregivers
- Requires the integration of care plans with Individual Education Plans (IEP) for public school students
- Introduces an **online application** process for services
- Ensures **immediate receipt confirmation** and maintaining access to paper applications
- Alters the timeframe for eligibility determinations and **lowers the age requirement for caregivers in a specific pre-enrollment category**
- Directs the development of a comprehensive plan for a new home and community-based services Medicaid waiver program targeting clients transitioning into adulthood.



Be Prepared



Application Process

Rule 65G-4.015 Available

www.apd.myflorida.com/customers/application/

- All documentation must be included
- Apply online or at APD Regional Office
- APD will respond within 45 days if child under 6 years
- APD will respond within 60 days if child is 6 years or older
- If APD needs additional info or evaluations to determine eligibility – time could be extended for up to 90 days
- Don't rush application process

Needed Documentation

- Evaluations to establish developmental disability (*every 3 years*)
- IDEA evaluation for special education (Critical Document)
- All IEPs - indicates primary disability to qualify under Florida Chapter 393
- Foster Care – all evaluations are helpful (*also DJJ evaluations if involved with delinquency court – including competency reports*)
- SSI Evaluation to receive Social Security
- Or . . . construct record through psychologist or physician for evaluation of disability



Be Counted



Why Be Counted? Pre-Enrollment v Medicaid Waiver

56,917 Floridian's Served

✓ 35,790 on Medicaid Waiver *(March 2025)*

✓ 21,127 on Pre-Enrollment List (known as waiting list)

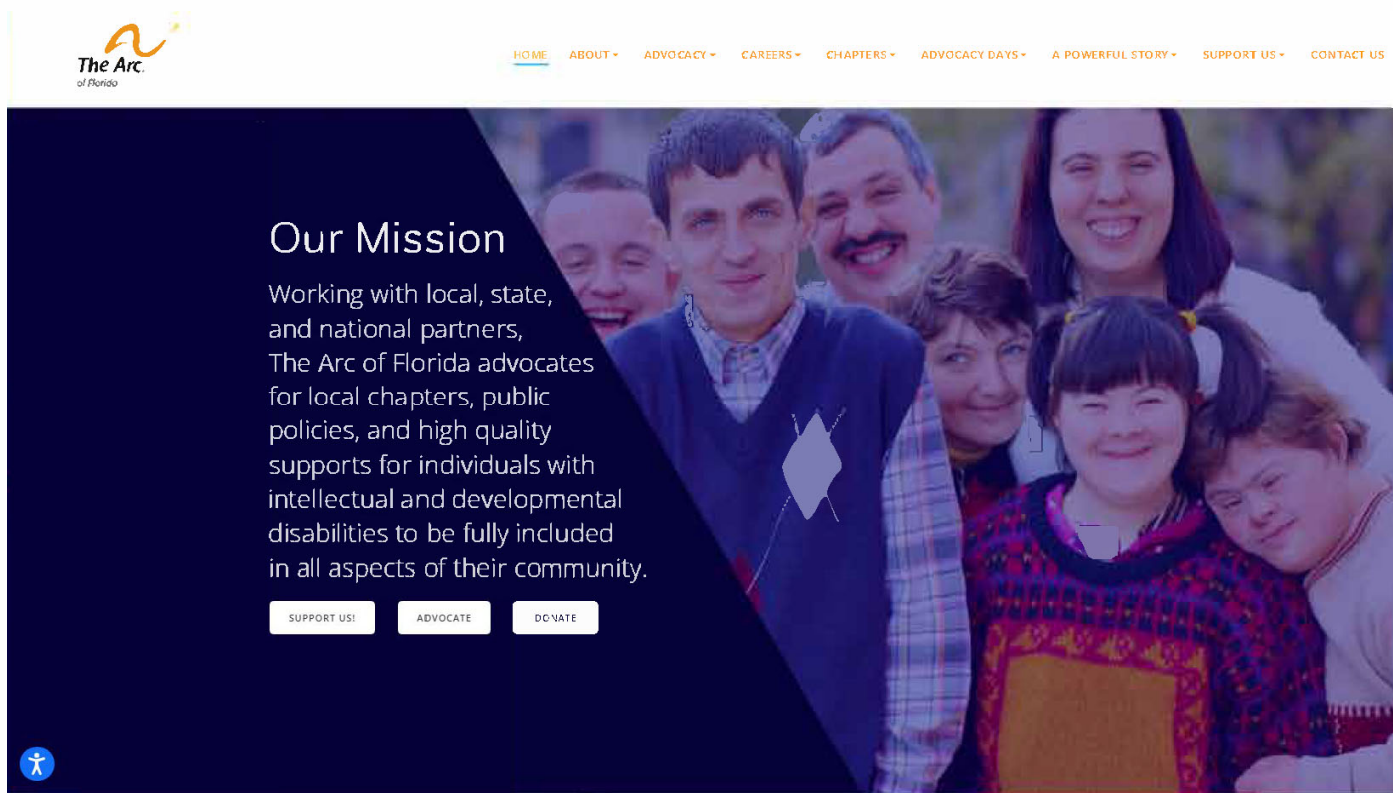
The Pre-Enrollment list is for those who qualify but waiting to be on Medicaid Waiver.

Having an accurate picture of the numbers, names and locations of people who need services is essential if Florida is to develop more resources and state funds.

Be Heard



The Arc of Florida



The screenshot shows the homepage of The Arc of Florida. At the top left is the logo, which consists of a stylized orange 'A' with a yellow star above it, followed by the text 'The Arc of Florida'. To the right of the logo is a horizontal navigation menu with the following items: HOME, ABOUT, ADVOCACY, CAREERS, CHAPTERS, ADVOCACY DAYS, A POWERFUL STORY, SUPPORT US, and CONTACT US. The main content area features a large background image of a diverse group of people, including children and adults, smiling. Overlaid on the left side of this image is a dark blue diagonal banner containing the text 'Our Mission' in white, followed by a paragraph: 'Working with local, state, and national partners, The Arc of Florida advocates for local chapters, public policies, and high quality supports for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to be fully included in all aspects of their community.' Below this text are three white buttons with black text: 'SUPPORT US!', 'ADVOCATE', and 'DONATE'. In the bottom left corner of the banner is a small blue circular icon with a white figure of a person with arms raised.

The Arc
of Florida

HOME ABOUT ADVOCACY CAREERS CHAPTERS ADVOCACY DAYS A POWERFUL STORY SUPPORT US CONTACT US

Our Mission

Working with local, state, and national partners, The Arc of Florida advocates for local chapters, public policies, and high quality supports for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to be fully included in all aspects of their community.

SUPPORT US! ADVOCATE DONATE



Questions

