

# SLS Waiver Guide

## Empowering Independence

PASCO

### What is the SLS waiver?

The SLS waiver provides necessary services and supports for individuals 18 and older with intellectual or developmental disabilities so they can remain in their homes and communities.

This waiver provides access to numerous benefits that allow adults to better integrate into the community and receive additional support for caregivers. Some of the primary benefits that PASCO serves under the SLS waiver are respite, supported community connections, mentorship, personal care and homemaker services. These services allow caregivers to receive assistance and additional support for their loved one. Additionally, they allow your loved one to interact and expand on social skills with various individuals at home and in the community. The SLS waiver promotes choice, independence, and decision-making through individualized planning.

### Qualifying for the SLS waiver

Like all additional Medicaid waivers, there are certain parameters that individuals must meet in order to qualify. For the SLS waiver, individuals must be:

- Older than 18 years old
- Determined to have a developmental disability by a Community Centered Board (CCB)
- Be able to live independently with limited supports or are already receiving increased support from natural supports, such as family or loved ones.
- Meets financial criteria for Health First Colorado as well as Social Security's definition of disability



### Key SLS Benefits



Respite



Personal Care



Supported  
Community  
Connections



Homemaker



Home  
Modifications



Mentorship

## Key Waiver Benefits



### Respite

Respite is the opportunity for a caregiver to take time for themselves, knowing that their loved one is well cared for by bringing in additional individuals trained to provide care. It can provide an avenue for individuals receiving care to experience new places and things, meet new people, and increase their independence. Respite providers are chosen by the recipient's family and are paid for their services.



### Mentorship

Mentorship services help promote self-advocacy. Methods include instructing, giving experiences, modeling and advising. This service helps individuals interview potential providers, understand complicated health and safety issues, and serve on private and public boards, advisory groups and commissions.



### Supported Community Connections

**\* must be a SIS level 3 or above**

Supported community connections helps individuals participate in typical public activities that build relationships and creates meaningful interactions within the community. Below are some examples of what supported community connections activities may look like:

- Going to a local cafe and encouraging the person to order their own drink
- Attending a social event, like a birthday party
- Going to the park and playing with or speaking to others



### Homemaker

Homemaker services are provided in you and your loved one's home and are allowed when an individual's disability creates either a higher volume or more frequent need for household tasks. There are two types of homemaker services: basic and enhanced.

- **Basic homemaker** services include cleaning, completing laundry, completing basic household care or maintenance within the client's primary residence.
- **Enhanced homemaker** services include basic homemaker services with the addition of either procedures for habilitation, or procedures to perform extraordinary cleaning.



### Home Modification

Home Modifications are specific modifications, adaptations or improvements in a client's existing home setting which, based on the client's medical condition are necessary to ensure the health, welfare and safety of the client, and enable the client to function with greater independence in the home to prevent institutionalization of the client.



### Personal Care

Personal Care services helps clients with daily tasks that they typically do for themselves but are unable to. Services may include skin, nail, hair and mouth care, bathing, shaving, dressing, eating, walking, exercise, transferring, positioning, toileting, and respiratory care.