

If you have a physical disability that requires you to have hands-on help with at least two of these activities of daily living,

**bathing**  
**dressing**  
**eating**  
**transferring**  
**toileting,**

you may be eligible for assistance under Medicaid to pay for a Personal Care Assistant (PCA). To participate you must be at least 18, but less than 65 years of age.

The Personal Care Assistance Waiver allows more flexibility since you can receive services when you need them, not at the convenience of an agency.

Under the waiver **you** are the **employer** of the personal care assistant and **you** are responsible for **hiring, training, supervising paying, and if necessary, firing** your personal care assistants.

Wages are negotiated between you and your PCA employee up to a maximum rate. The rate for a PCA is less than that charged by an agency, allowing you more hours of care for less or equal money. A fiscal agency will send out paychecks for your PCA. You simply need to submit time sheets. In addition, this agency will be responsible for all tax matters related

to your PCA on your behalf, but your PCA works for you, **not** the fiscal agency **nor** the Department of Social Services.

A person who meets all the requirements of the program but who cannot supervise a PCA may have a conservator do so. The conservator cannot be your PCA or be related to your PCA. The applicant must be **the** essential participant in developing the PCA plan.

To be eligible under this Medicaid waiver program, you must meet certain income and asset guidelines.

### **Monthly Income**

Your monthly income cannot exceed \$2,022.00 per month (effective 1/1/09 - changes every January). There may be circumstances when you are required to contribute to the cost of the PCA services based on the amount of your monthly income.

Monthly income includes such things as earnings, pensions, Social Security benefits, veterans benefits, and alimony. If you are married, your spouse's income will not be counted in determining your eligibility for this program. However, since your spouse is legally responsible for you, he or she may be billed for some of the costs.

### **Assets**

Your total assets cannot exceed \$1,600. Counted assets include bank accounts, some life insurance policies, savings bonds, and stocks.

The Department does **not** count the house that you live in, or a motor vehicle that is used for transportation to employment or on-going medical treatment, or vehicles modified for operation by, or transportation of a disabled person.

If you are married and your assets are greater than \$1,600 an assessment of you and your spouse's total assets will be done by the Department.

### **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.

Participation in the waiver is limited. If all the available slots are filled, names will be placed on a waiting list.

To apply for the PCA waiver, contact the regional office in your area for a PCA Waiver Request Form. The addresses and telephone numbers of all the regional offices are listed on the back of this brochure. You must send this form to:

**CT Department of Social Services  
25 Sigourney Street  
Hartford, CT 06106**

**Attn: Social Work Services**

After your PCA Waiver Request Form is received, a Social Worker will come out to your home. At this time you will be required to complete an application for Medicaid. If you are found eligible for the PCA Waiver you will be eligible for all Medicaid-covered services.

Services are available to all applicants and recipients without regard to race, color, religious creed, sex, marital status, age, national origin, ancestry, criminal record, political beliefs, sexual orientation, mental retardation, mental disability, learning disability or physical disability, including but not limited to blindness.

## **Regional Offices**

3580 Main Street, Hartford  
860-723-1030

699 East Middle Turnpike, Manchester  
860-647-5811

30 Christian Lane, New Britain  
860-612-3565

194 Bassett Street, New Haven  
203-974-8038

117 Main Street Extension, Middletown  
860-704-3040

925 Housatonic Avenue, 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 Avenue, Waterbury  
203-597-4187

342 Main Street, Danbury  
203-207-8933

62 Commercial Blvd., Torrington  
860-496-6960

**This information is available in alternate formats. Phone (800) 842-1508 or TDD/TTY (800) 842-4524.**

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Department of Social Services

## **PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANCE**

**Medicaid  
Waiver  
Program**



**Connecticut  
Department of Social Services**

**M. Jodi Rell  
Governor**

**Michael P. Starkowski  
Commissioner**