

Frequently Asked Questions

What are Community Inclusion services?

Community Inclusion services are individualized services provided in integrated community settings with other individuals without disabilities. The activities are based on client interests and provide opportunities typically experienced by the general public of similar age in their local community, accessible by public transit or a reasonable commute from their home. The goal of the service is to support clients to participate, contribute and develop relationships with community members who are not paid staff.

Who is eligible for Community Inclusion services?

Community Inclusion is available to clients who have participated in nine months of Employment services and choose Community Inclusion in addition to or instead of Employment. Community Inclusion is also available to clients 62 years or older without having to participate in nine months of Employment services. It is available for those clients on the Basic Plus and Core waivers; clients receiving Roads to Community Living, Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review clients in Skilled Nursing Facilities, and Residential Habilitation Centers clients. An Exception to Rule can be requested through your case manager if you have not or do not want to participate in 9 months of employment services. [WAC 388-845-0603](#) Who is eligible to receive community inclusion services?

Can I have Community Inclusion and Employment services at the same time?

Yes, starting Jan. 1, 2023, these services are available concurrently after the client participates in nine months of employment services.



How many hours of support will I receive in Community Inclusion?

Your monthly Community Inclusion service hours are determined by your annual assessment completed by your case manager from the Developmental Disabilities Administration. Monthly service hours range from three to 20. [WAC 388-828-9310](#) How does DDA determine the number of community inclusion services hours you may receive each month?

What can I expect from my Community Inclusion service?

Your Community Inclusion provider will meet with you and through a process of person-centered planning will identify your individual interests to develop a Community Inclusion plan with strategies to access opportunities consistent with your interests in your local community. The activities will be integrated and provide opportunities to contribute and develop relationships with people in your community who are not paid staff.



Will I always have a staff person with me in the community?

You will always have appropriate supports to participate safely in community activities; however, your Community Inclusion staff may not always be present. The ideal outcome of the service is that you are supported to participate, contribute and develop relationships with other community members with similar interests who will support you in the activity so that the Community Inclusion staff can fade from that activity and look for additional opportunities for you to participate in community activities of interest.

What if I do not know what I want to do in the community?

Your Community Inclusion provider is trained to help you identify areas of interest through a process of discovery where you are provided various opportunities in the community to see what you most enjoy or show interest in. In addition, they will seek input from those who know you best.

What activities are available to participate in as part of Community Inclusion services?

Community activities are as varied as your interests (e.g., club memberships, volunteering, etc.) if they meet all four simple criteria:

1. Individualized based on your interests.
2. Integrated with other individuals without disabilities in the community.
3. Activities that are typically experienced by the general public of similar age in your local community, accessible by public transit or a reasonable commute from your home.
4. Ability to contribute and develop relationship with community members who are not paid staff.

What activities are NOT available to participate in as part of Community Inclusion Services?

Community Inclusion services cannot be used to support you in some community activities. These activities include: Specialized and/or segregated activities with only clients with disabilities, activities that do not provide an opportunity to contribute or develop relationships with community members who are not paid staff, or activities that don't occur in your local community.

Can Community Inclusion services be provided to more than one individual at a time?

Although Community Inclusion is an individualized service, it can be provided for two to three clients at the same time; IF the activity is a shared interest of all participants and meets the guidelines of integrated setting, local community, and ability to contribute and develop relationships with other individuals without disabilities in the community who are not paid staff.

What other services are available to help me access my community?

Community Engagement is a service that assists clients to access their communities and is available to clients on the Individual and Family Services, Basic Plus and Core waivers or Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review clients in Skilled Nursing Facilities or on Roads to Community Living. It is provided by individual providers and or agencies contracted directly with the Developmental Disabilities Administration. Respite can also be provided in the community. It may be available to clients on the Individual and Family Services, Basic Plus and Core Waivers. It is provided by individual providers and/or agencies contracted directly with DSHS' Developmental Disabilities Administration.