



COLORADO

Department of Health Care
Policy & Financing

1570 Grant Street
Denver, CO 80203

Presumptive Eligibility for Individuals with Disabilities

November 2023

What does this bill do?

This bill would give HCPF statutory authority to pursue an 1115 waiver to expand the population eligible for Presumptive Eligibility (PE) to include individuals with disabilities. Presumptive Eligibility would give individuals, who meet certain self-declared criteria, access to Medicaid long term care services for a short period prior to completing the typical financial and functional eligibility processes and meeting this criteria for continued coverage. The PE process facilitates prompt delivery of long term care services and can prevent nursing home admissions, reduce length of stay in a hospital, or ensure that individuals are able to find appropriate placement in a setting that best meets their needs.

This bill is a technical adjustment to existing language that would:

- Ensure PE is available to both individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities (IDD) and those who use Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS);
- Ensure HCPF can request the appropriate federal authority to implement PE, as current authority only allows amendments to the State Plan and Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waivers;
- Allows both financial (meeting income and asset limits requirements) and functional (meeting level of care requirements) PE.

Why is this bill needed?

The time it takes to determine eligibility can delay individuals with disabilities from receiving services they need. While the Department continues to simplify and streamline the eligibility process through contractor funding and system changes, we would like to implement presumptive eligibility for people with disabilities to further streamline the eligibility process and ensure individuals are provided the services they need as quickly as possible.

What are the consequences if this bill is not passed?

If this bill is not passed, the status quo will continue. Certain individuals with disabilities will not be able to enter HCBS quickly to have their needs met and may wait longer in hospitals while waiting for eligibility determination to be discharged.



What is the fiscal impact of this bill?

This bill has no fiscal impact.

HCPF received budgetary authority from the General Assembly to implement presumptive eligibility for individuals with disabilities through the [FY 2023-24 BA-07](#). HCPF projects to spend \$1,303,093 in TF, including \$690,835 in GF at a 47% FFP for FY 2025-26 to account for the increase in service costs for the expanded population.

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