Employment and Community First CHOICES

People in one of the groups below may qualify to enroll in the program and get services when there is a slot. These slots are VERY limited right now. People in the groups listed first will get the chance to enroll before people in the groups listed later. Other eligibility rules also apply.

Priority Category	What our rules say:*	What it means:
А	Any age or level of disability, employed and in need of supports to maintain employment	You have a job. You need help to keep your job.
В	18-22 years old, regardless of the level of disability, transitioning from school and young adults completing post-secondary education or training who are employed or who have the commitment of employment from an employer and are in need of employment supports	You're a young adult (at least 18 years old) and about to finish school. This could be high school. Or, it could be college or other training after high school. You have a job offer. But, you can only get the job if you have help on the job.
С	Any age or level of disability, recently unemployed and in need of supports to obtain and/or maintain new employment	You just lost your job, and you want to get a new one. You need help to get a new job. You may also need help to keep your new job.
D	18-22 years old, regardless of the level of disability, transitioning from school with expressed desire for employment	You're 18-22 years old and about to finish school. You don't have a job offer, but you want to work. You need help to get a job. You may also need help to keep your new job.
E	Unemployed, regardless of the level of disability, with desire and commitment to work.	You don't have a job yet, but you want to work. You need help to get a job. You may also need help to keep your new job.
F	Youth of transition age, regardless of the level of disability, living at home with family caregivers, who are actively planning for employment as part of the transition process and in need of supports provided in ECF CHOICES, including for individuals with more significant needs, employment customization, in order to achieve and maintain employment (applies only to youth living with their families)	You're 14-22 years old. You're still in school. You live at home with your family. You're planning to work when you get out of school. But, you need help getting ready for work. You can't get the kind of help you need from your school or Voc Rehab (Vocational Rehabilitation).

*Some of the groups were added after the program started, based on input from stakeholders. If a group isn't in the Rule yet, this is what the Rule will say. For all groups, you must need supports you can't get from your family and services you can't get from Vocational Rehabilitation or as education or related services.

Turn the page over for more groups.



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Priority Category	What our rules say:*	What it means:
G	Adults and transition age youth who are not currently committed to working, but are willing to explore potential employment options if pre-employment supports are available, and agree to participate in the Exploration service.	You're at least 14 years old, but not old enough to retire. You're open to exploring the option of working—even part- time or working for yourself, with help from the program. You agree to receive a service called "Exploration." It will help you decide if you want to work and the kinds of jobs you might like and be really good at by visiting job sites that match your skills and interests. It also helps you (and your family) understand the benefits of working and helps answer your questions about work.
н	Individuals age 62 and older who are not currently interested in pursuing employment, but need supports to actively participate in their communities and sustain integrated community living. Individuals age 55 and older may be included in this group if they have more significant disabilities or health conditions that could significantly impact their ability to work.	You're at least 62 years old. You aren't interested in working anymore. You need help to live in and be part of the community. OR, you're at least 55 years old. Your health problems make it hard for you to work. You need help to live in and be part of the community.

We may hold slots for these groups too when there's funding:		What it means:
Sustain Family Living Arrangement	Individuals living at home with family who have significant medical or behavioral support needs that family caregivers are struggling to meet, and the sustainability of the current living arrangement is at significant risk. Services available through this program would help to support and sustain the current living arrangement and the continuation of natural caregiving supports, delaying the need for more expensive services.	You live at home with your family. You need a lot of help with medical or behavioral problems. Your family needs help caring for you so you can keep living at home. (It doesn't matter how old you are.)
Planned Transition	Adults age 21 and older living at home with family whose primary caregiver is in poor and declining health, placing the long-term sustainability of the current living arrangement at significant risk. Planned transition to community living in the most independent and integrated setting appropriate is needed in order to avoid a potential crisis situation in the near future.	You're at least 21 years old. You live at home with your family. The person who supports you is in poor health, and it's getting worse. They can't keep caring for you much longer. You need help to move to a new place soon to get the support you need.