

MnCHOICES initiative

What is MnCHOICES?

MnCHOICES is a single, comprehensive assessment and support planning web-based application used by professionals who the state has certified as assessors and support planners for long-term services and supports. It uses a person-centered planning approach to help people make decisions about long-term services and supports.

MnCHOICES replaces the following assessment tools:

- Developmental Disabilities Screening
- Long-Term Care Consultation
- Personal Care Assistance Assessment

What does MnCHOICES do?

- Promotes timely consideration of support options reimbursed through Medical Assistance long-term service programs.
- Provides greater consistency in how eligibility is determined for publicly funded long-term services and supports across Minnesota.
- Implements a single comprehensive assessment to determine needs and support planning.
- Provides additional data to evaluate outcomes.
- Streamlines support plan development.
- Determines eligibility for publicly funded programs and services for all ages and disabilities including:
 - Alternative Care Program
 - Brain Injury Waiver
 - Community Alternative Care Waiver
 - Community Access for Disability Inclusion Waiver
 - Consumer Support Grant
 - Developmental Disabilities Waiver
 - Elderly Waiver
 - Essential Community Supports for Seniors
 - Moving Home Minnesota
 - Personal care assistance
 - Case management
 - Semi-independent living services

Who will benefit?

MnCHOICES benefits people of all ages and disabilities who need long-term services and supports. It also benefits lead agencies (counties, tribes and managed care organizations) responsible for completing assessments and support planning.

- It helps the person better understand his or her support needs and how to get services to meet those needs.
- These services can help the person stay at home or move home from a hospital, nursing home or other institution.
- If a person qualifies for publicly funded programs, it helps them to access programs such as Medical Assistance home and community-based waiver services, personal care assistance and other long-term services and supports.
- If the person does not qualify for publicly funded programs, it helps them learn about and have help accessing other support options.

What are other benefits of a MnCHOICES assessment?

- Supports matching services to an individual's strengths, preferences and needs
- Promotes equal access across populations and geographic areas
- Replaces multiple assessments for different programs
- Reduces paperwork
- Helps with support planning
- Promotes statewide quality measurement.

How does a person get help?

A person of any age with disabilities or in need of long-term services and supports can ask for a MnCHOICES assessment by contacting the Senior LinkAge Line at 1-800-333-2433, the Disability Linkage Line at 1-866-333-2466 or the county or tribe where they live.

How many people will benefit?

In 2016, a total of 118,219 assessments were completed in Minnesota. It is projected that more than 185,000 will be completed in 2020.

What is the status of MnCHOICES?

Currently all Minnesota counties and two tribes are using MnCHOICES. Efforts are being made for managed care organizations to use MnCHOICES.

Other information resources

- MnCHOICES page on DHS CountyLink: <http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/mnchoices>
- MnCHOICES email: DHS.Mnchoices@state.mn.us
- Subscribe to MnCHOICES Matters: <http://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/continuing-care/reform-initiatives/mnchoices/mnchoices-matters.jsp>
- MnCHOICES public website pages: <http://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/news-initiatives-reports-workgroups/long-term-services-and-supports/mnchoices/>

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