

ABOUT DIDD

SUPPORTS FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH IDD

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OBJECTIVES



- What is DIDD?
- Programs for Children
- Programs for Adults
- Other DIDD Programs

ABOUT DIDD



The **Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (DIDD)** became a standalone agency in **2011**.

Provides support to approximately **25,000 children and adults** with disabilities.

DIDD provides support in a variety of Programs:

- Tennessee Early Intervention System
- Katie Beckett Program
- Home and Community Based Services
- Family Support Program
- Seating and Positioning Clinics
- MAPs Program

DIDD MISSION & VISION

MISSION:

Support all Tennesseans with intellectual and developmental disabilities to live the lives they envision for themselves

VISION:

To become the nation's most person-centered and cost-effective state support system for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

DIDD COMMISSIONER BRAD TURNER

Appointed Commissioner by
Governor Lee in January 2019

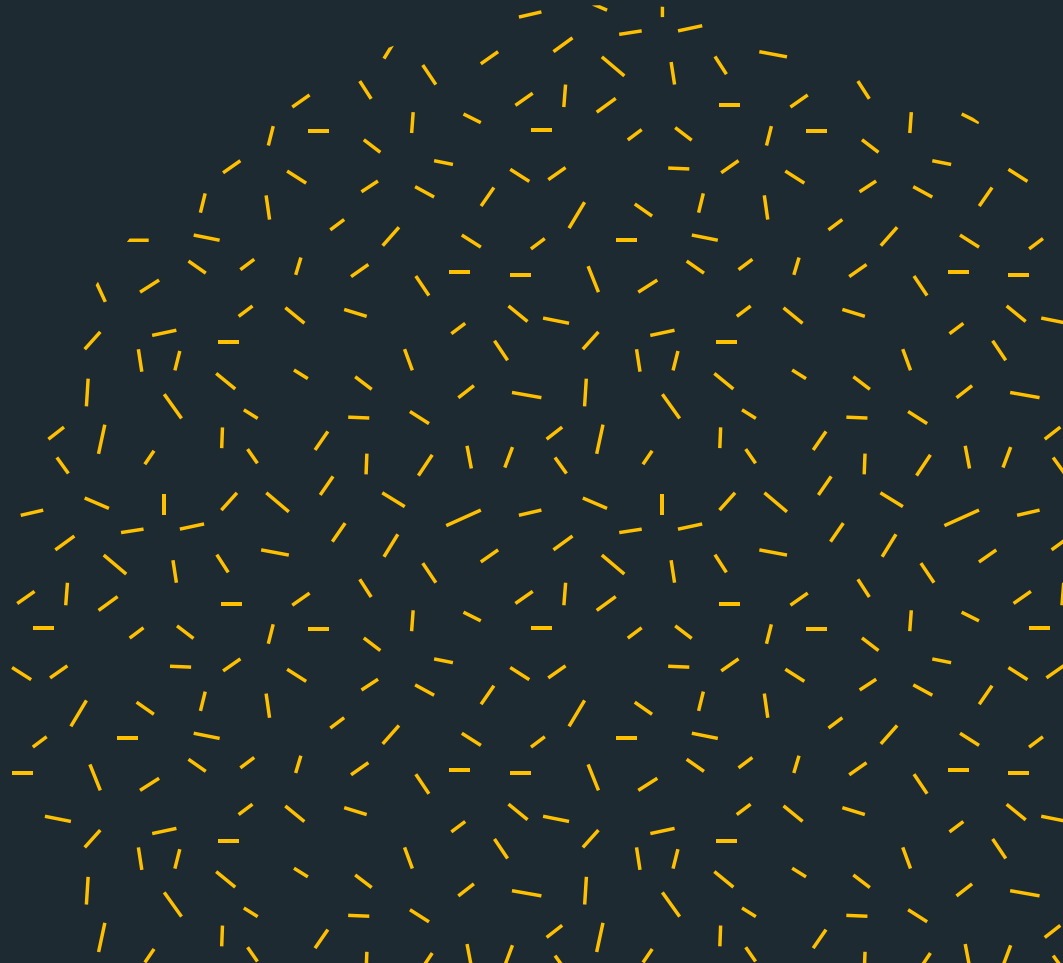
Ushered in a time of extraordinary
growth for the department
(addition of TEIS, Katie Beckett
Program)

Father of a teenage girl with
intellectual and developmental
disabilities

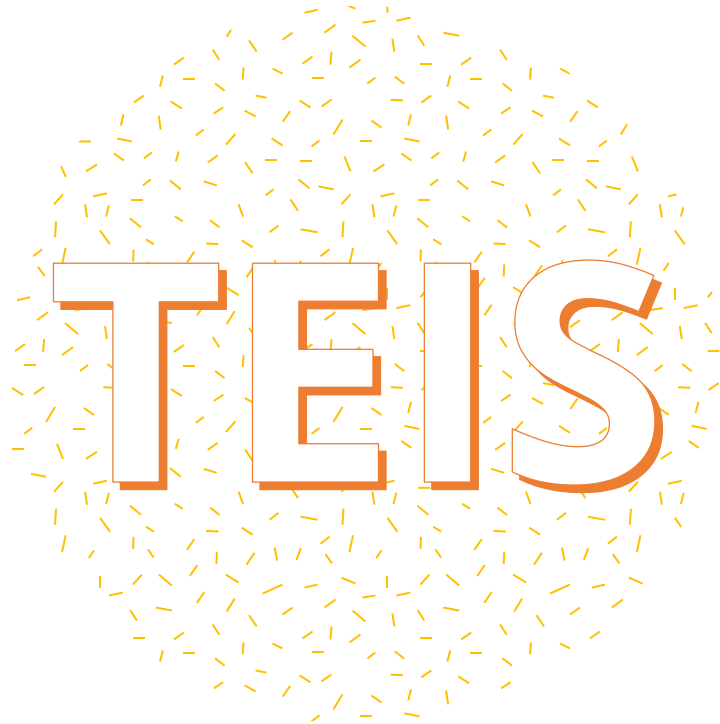




TEIS



TENNESSEE EARLY INTERVENTION SYSTEM (TEIS)



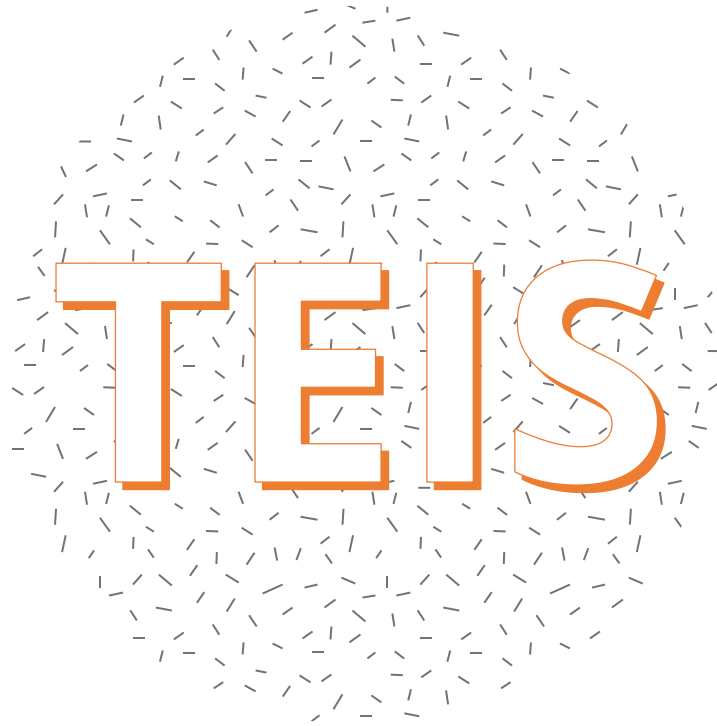
The Tennessee Early Intervention System provides therapy and services to children in Tennessee from birth until their third birthday.

Starting October 15, 2022, eligible children will have the choice to continue to receive TEIS services until the age of 4.

Services are provided at no cost to the families.

Anyone can refer a child to TEIS with basic information.

TEIS SERVICES OFFERED



Basic services include:

- Service coordination
- Evaluation
- Assessment
- Developmental Therapy
- Family Training and Counseling
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Vision/Hearing Services
- Assistive Technology
- Transportation
- Psychological Evaluations

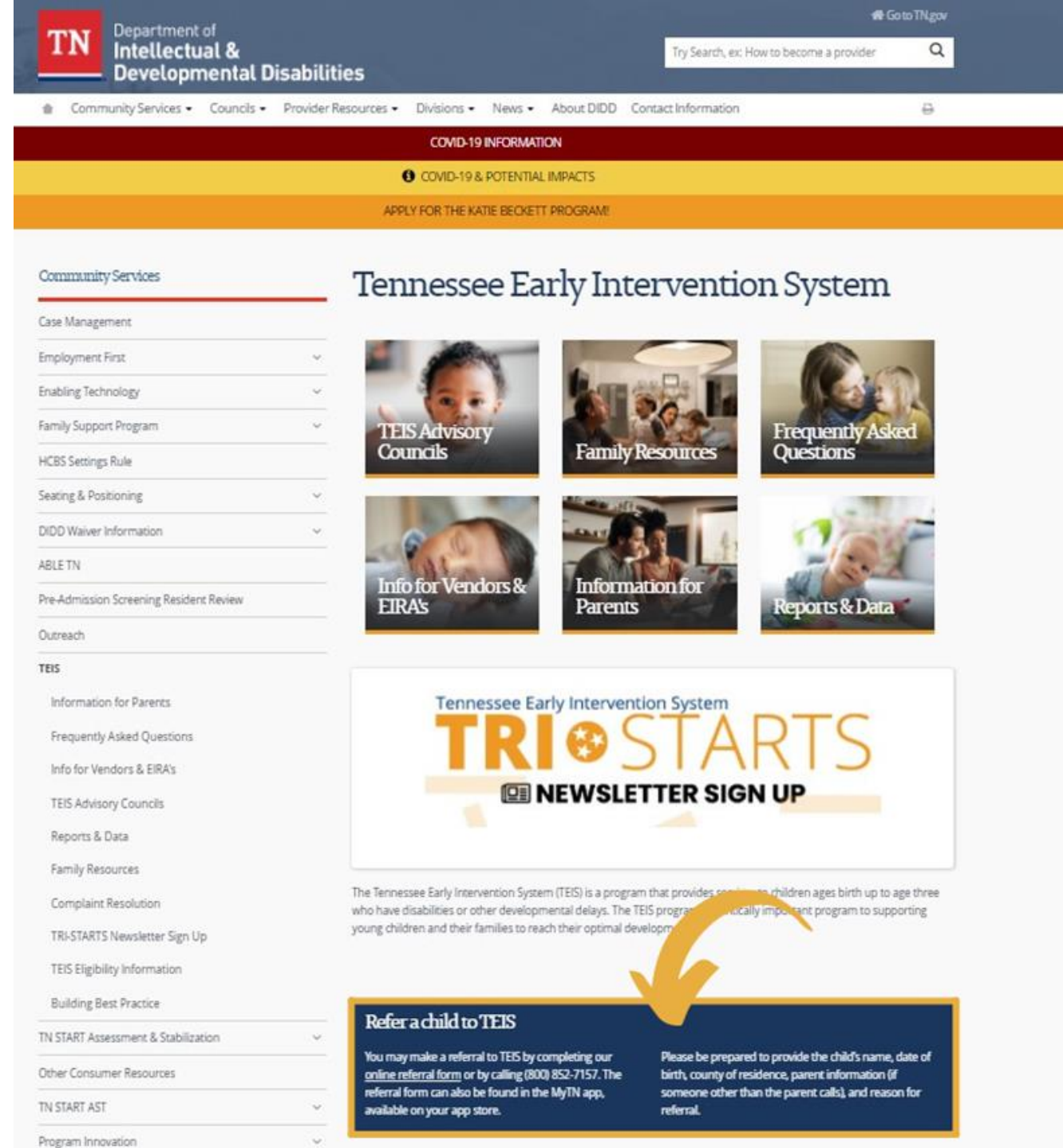
TEIS: WHO IS ELIGIBLE



- A child must demonstrate one or more of the following criteria to be eligible for services:
 - Diagnosis of one or more specific conditions likely to result in a developmental delay
 - 25% delay in two developmental areas: motor, communication, cognition, social, and adaptive OR
 - 40% delay in one developmental area
- Eligibility is determined through multi-disciplinary approach, including a review of medical records
- Eligibility evaluators are employed by agencies contracted through the state

TEIS: MAKING A REFERRAL

- Online referral form via the TEIS website: tn.gov/didd/teis
- Call the point of entry office that provides services for the child's county of residence
- Call the TEIS Referral line: **800-852-7157**
- Download the **MyTN** app

The screenshot shows the DIDD website with the following elements:

- Header:** "TN Department of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities" and a search bar.
- Navigation:** Community Services, Councils, Provider Resources, Divisions, News, About DIDD, Contact Information.
- COVID-19 Information:** A red banner with "COVID-19 INFORMATION" and "APPLY FOR THE KATIE BECKETT PROGRAM!"
- Community Services:** A sidebar menu listing services like Case Management, Employment First, Enabling Technology, Family Support Program, HCBS Settings Rule, Seating & Positioning, DIDD Waiver Information, ABLE TN, Pre-Admission Screening Resident Review, and Outreach.
- TEIS Section:**
 - Tennessee Early Intervention System** title.
 - Grid of tiles: TEIS Advisory Councils, Family Resources, Frequently Asked Questions, Info for Vendors & EIRAs, Information for Parents, Reports & Data.
 - TRI-STARTS NEWSLETTER SIGN UP** banner.
 - Text: "The Tennessee Early Intervention System (TEIS) is a program that provides... children ages birth up to age three who have disabilities or other developmental delays. The TEIS program is a critically important program to supporting young children and their families to reach their optimal development."
 - Refer a child to TEIS** box:
 - Text: "You may make a referral to TEIS by completing our [online referral form](#) or by calling (800) 852-7157. The referral form can also be found in the MyTN app, available on your app store."
 - Text: "Please be prepared to provide the child's name, date of birth, county of residence, parent information (if someone other than the parent calls), and reason for referral."

TEIS: MAKING A REFERRAL

To **make a referral**, you'll need:

- Child's first and last name
- Parent (s) name
- Parent's contact information
- Child's date of birth
- Reason (s) for referral
- Referral source



TEIS

TEIS Referral Form

Tennessee's Early Intervention System (TEIS) is an educational program that supports families of infants and toddlers, age birth to three years, with developmental delays and disabilities. Early intervention helps families support their child's learning and development in order to reach child and family goals. To make a referral, please complete the form below.

Please email Shannon.Pargin@tn.gov to report any issues with this form.

Child and Parent/Guardian Information

Child's Name*

First Name

Last Name

TEIS: WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A REFERRAL?

The logo for TEIS (Tennessee Early Intervention System) features the letters 'TEIS' in a large, orange, outlined font. The letters are set against a background of a white silhouette of the state of Tennessee, which is filled with a pattern of small, black, dashed lines.

45 days to determine eligibility and develop a plan for services

Information mailed to family

An evaluator sets up an appointment for intake and evaluation

At first appointment, parent/guardian must give permission and sign release of information for medical records

Child must be present for evaluation

TEIS: DEVELOPING A PLAN



TEIS

Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)

Identifies supports and services to address family priorities

Supports the child's participation in daily activities

Reviewed by the team of service providers, parents, and service coordinator, at a minimum of every 6 months

Currently at age 3 children, eligible children are served by the local school district

Prior to a child's third birthday, a transition planning conference is held with TEIS, the local school district and the parent/guardian

KATIE BECKETT



KATIE BECKETT PROGRAM



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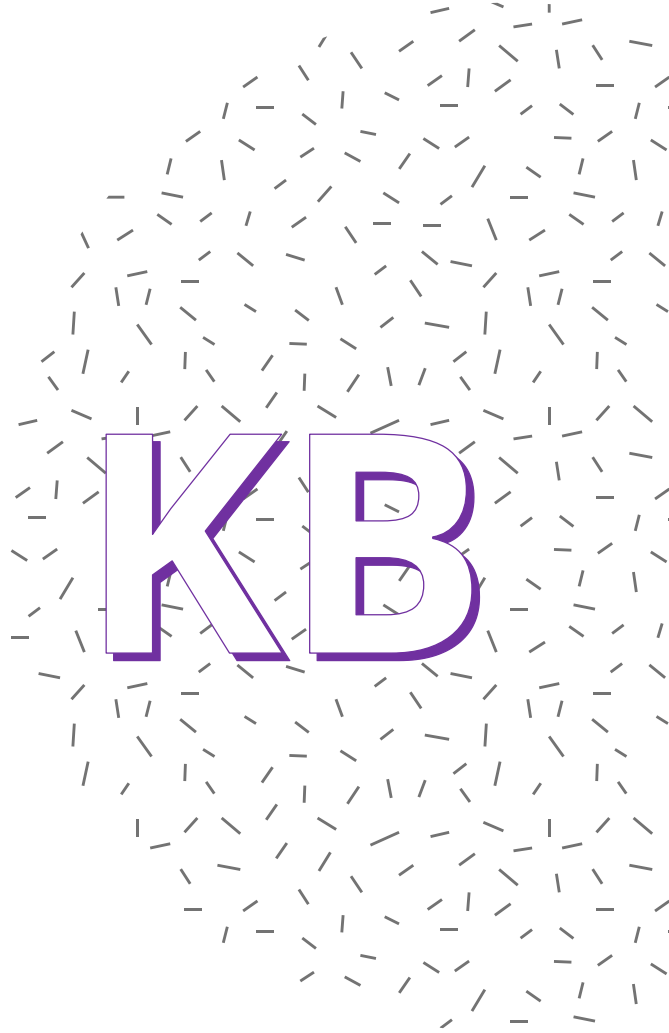
Serves children younger than age 18

For children who have disabilities or complex medical needs

Children are not eligible for Medicaid because their parents have too much money (income and/or assets)

- Medicaid usually does not allow you to have more than \$2,000 in assets
- Income limits depend on a child's age and how many people live in the home

KATIE BECKETT PROGRAM



In Tennessee, there are different ways to get services through Katie Beckett:

- **Part A** (for up to 300 children to get Medicaid)
- **Part B** (for up to 2,700 children to get help through DIDD)

KATIE BECKETT PART A



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Part A is for children with the most significant disabilities or complex medical needs.

These are children who would qualify to receive care in a medical institution *but want to receive care at home*.

The level of need is determined by a medical review called a Pre-Admission Evaluation, or PAE.

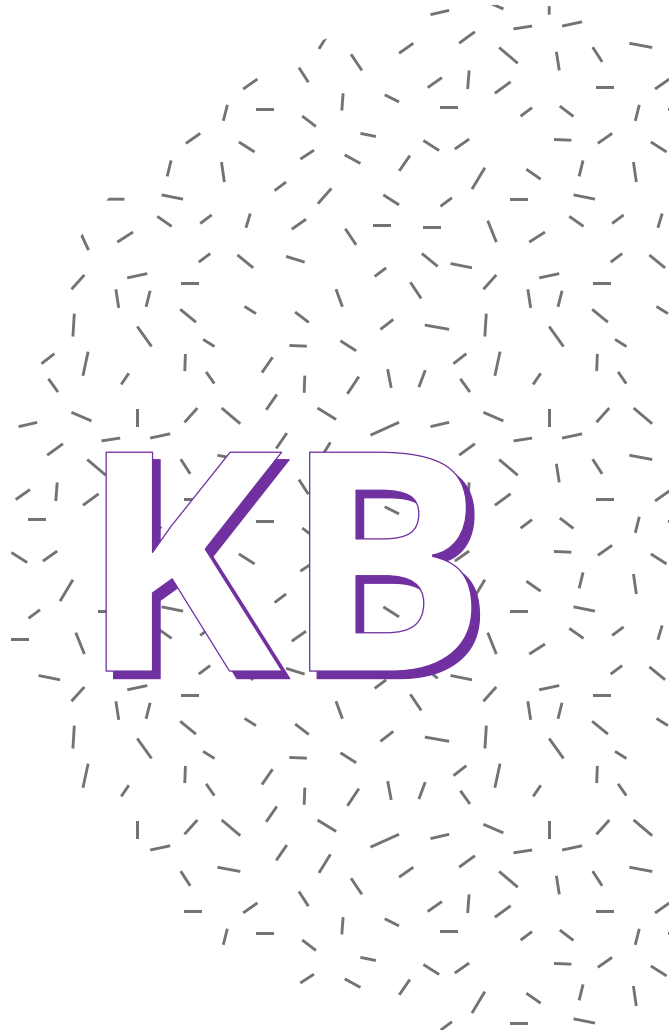
KATIE BECKETT PART A



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- Children in Part A receive full Medicaid benefits, such as:
 - Home health care services
 - In-home nursing services
 - Medical equipment and supplies
 - Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech Therapy
 - Audiological services
 - Non-emergency transportation (NEMT)
- The child must have and keep private insurance. The family may have to pay a premium for Part A, depending on their income.
- Private insurance must pay *first*. TennCare will help pay for those things private insurance doesn't cover, including co-pays.

KATIE BECKETT PART A

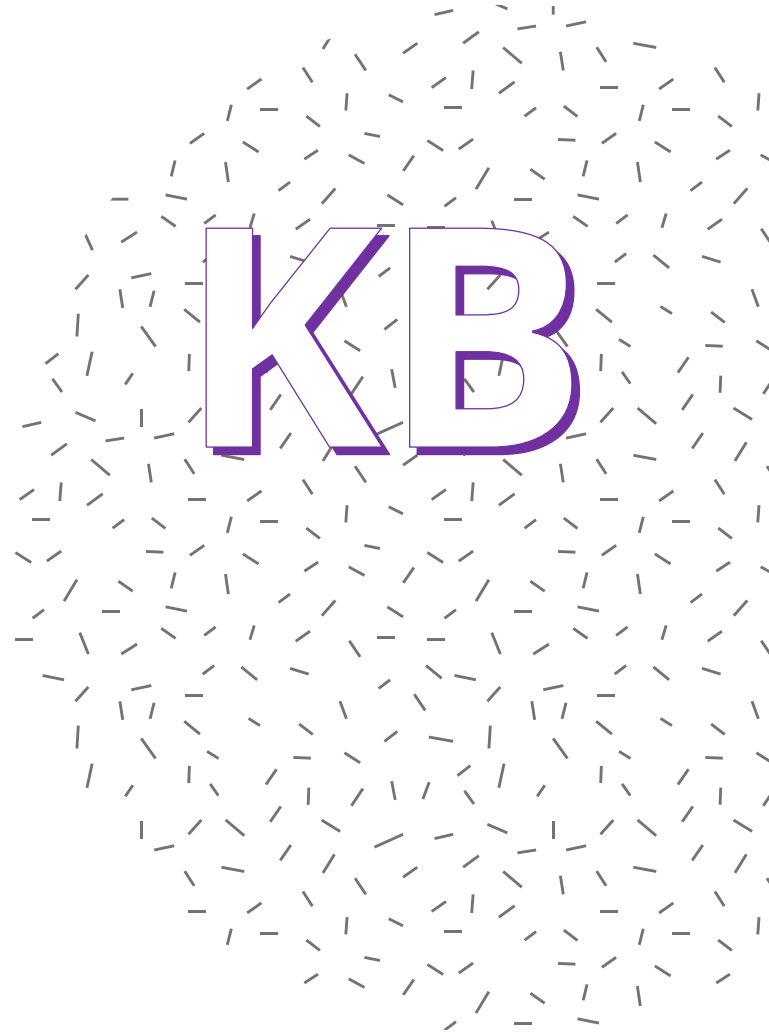


Children in Part A can also receive up to \$15,000 a year in home and community-based services to help pay for things insurance usually doesn't cover.

These are sometimes called “wraparound” services.

Respite and Supportive Home Care are two types of services.

KATIE BECKETT PART B



Part B is for children with complex medical needs and disabilities who do not qualify for care in a medical institution or are waiting for a slot in Part A

**There are currently no children on the Part A waiting list but that is subject to change based on availability*

KATIE BECKETT PART B



KB

The child must meet the “At Risk” level of care

Children are enrolled in Part B on a first come, first served basis.

- This is based on when you apply or are placed on the Part B waiting list.

Children in Part B will not be enrolled in Medicaid, but **will get help from DIDD to pay for up to \$10,000 a year of care for their child.**

KATIE BECKETT PART B



KB

Health insurance premium assistance to pay the cost of the child's private insurance

Healthcare Reimbursement Account (HRA) similar to the HSA where families can use a card for qualified expenses (co-pays, deductibles, medications, etc.)

Non-traditional therapy reimbursement

Consumer-directed respite and supportive home care

Agency-based services similar to Part A wrap around services

APPLYING FOR KATIE BECKETT

KB



Applying for Katie Beckett starts by applying for Medicaid. TennCare must make sure the child doesn't qualify for Medicaid any other way. This is the only way to apply for Katie Beckett.

When applying for Medicaid, a person can also choose to apply for Katie Beckett

All of this must be done through **TennCare Connect**

Find **TennCare Connect** here:

tenncareconnect.tn.gov/services/homepage

If a person doesn't have a computer, **DIDD can help with the application**

NEED HELP WITH THE SELF-REFERRAL?



KB

What if you're not on TennCare?

You can call your Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Regional Office for free. Tell them you need help with a self-referral for Employment and Community First CHOICES.

Their toll-free numbers are listed below.

- West Tennessee Regional Office
(866) 372-5709
- Middle Tennessee Regional Office
(800) 654-4839
- East Tennessee Regional Office
(888) 531-9876

EMPLOYMENT & COMMUNITY FIRST CHOICES

EMPLOYMENT & COMMUNITY FIRST CHOICES



ECF

Key Aspects:

- Employment & Community First (ECF) CHOICES is an innovative wide-ranging program that supports people with intellectual OR developmental disabilities.
- Prior to ECF CHOICES, people with developmental disabilities had very few options for state supports.
- ECF CHOICES has been a national leader and model for employment supports, community integration, and behavioral health.

EMPLOYMENT & COMMUNITY FIRST CHOICES



ECF

The logo features the letters 'ECF' in a large, blue, outlined font. To the right of the letters is a stylized human head silhouette composed of many small, light blue dashes, suggesting a brain or neural activity.

Key Aspects:

- Employment is a significant focus of the program. TennCare firmly believes that all people, regardless of disability, can find meaningful and integrated employment.
- Each service offered in ECF CHOICES must be delivered in a home or community-based setting (*HCBS*). Isolation or segregation because someone has a disability is unacceptable.
- TennCare works closely with DIDD and the MCOs to effectively administer the program.

BENEFIT GROUPS

E C F

Essential Family Supports (This is sometimes called “**Group 4.**”)

- Family Support services are for families caring for a child under the age of 21 who has an intellectual or developmental disability (I/DD). The child must live at home with their family (not a foster family).
- Adults age 21 with I/DD living at home with their family can also choose to enroll in this group if they qualify.

BENEFIT GROUPS



ECF

Essential Supports for Employment & Independent Living (This is sometimes called “Group 5.”)

- Essential Support services are for adults age 21 and older who have an I/DD **but don’t qualify** for the level of care in a nursing home.
- A person age 18-21 with I/DD may be enrolled in this group **if** they can’t live with their family anymore.
- A person who would qualify to receive care in a nursing home can choose to enroll in this group **if** ECF CHOICES Group 6 is full and their needs can be met with these services.

BENEFIT GROUPS

The letters 'ECF' are rendered in a large, blue, outlined font. They are centered within a circular area that has a dashed, dotted border. The background of this circle is white with a pattern of small, light blue dashes.

Comprehensive Supports for Employment and Community Living (This is sometimes called “**Group 6.**”)

- These services are only for adults age 21 and older who would qualify to get care in a nursing home. A person age 18-21 with I/DD may be enrolled in this group if they can't live with their family anymore.
- Comprehensive Support services are for people who need more services to help them live in the community and achieve their employment and community living goals.

BENEFIT GROUPS



ECF

Intensive Behavioral Family Supports (This is sometimes called “**Group 7.**”)

- This group is for a small number of children under age 21 who live with their family and have I/DD and severe behavior support needs that place the child or others at risk of serious harm.

The behaviors are so challenging that the child is at risk of being placed outside the home. This group provides mental health treatment and other services in the home with the family.

(The family must be willing to be part of the child’s treatment.) The services will train and support the family to support the child so they can keep living safely together.

BENEFIT GROUPS

The letters 'ECF' are rendered in a large, blue, outlined font. They are centered within a circular area that has a background of small, light blue dashes, creating a textured effect.

Comprehensive Behavioral Supports for Employment and Community Living (This is sometimes called “**Group 8.**”)

- This group is for a small number of adults who have I/DD and severe behavior support needs and are moving into the community from a place with lots of structure and supervision. This could be coming from a mental health hospital, the foster care system, jail, or a nursing home.

These services are mostly for adults age 21 or older. But sometimes, a person age 18-20 can get them too. They combine 24/7 residential services with mental health treatment and support.

People are usually in this group short-term. Once the person is stable in the community, they will move to a different benefit group that can safely meet their needs.

WHO QUALIFIES FOR ECF CHOICES?



ECF

People with a diagnosed intellectual or developmental disability.

- *ID must be diagnosed prior to age 18*
- *DD must be diagnosed prior to age 22*

People who meet TennCare financial eligibility criteria. This changes yearly and factors in assets and monthly income along with other nuanced pieces.

APPLYING FOR ECF CHOICES



ECF

To apply for ECF CHOICES a person can:

- Complete the Self-Referral Form on the TennCare website.
- Get assistance from their MCO if they are already a member of that specific healthplan.
 - Amerigroup, BlueCare, United Healthcare
- Get assistance from DIDD if they are not already a TennCare member.

NEED HELP WITH THE SELF-REFERRAL?

E C F

If you have TennCare and your health plan is Amerigroup, BlueCare or United Health Care Community Plan, you can call them for free. Tell them you need help with a self-referral for Employment and Community First CHOICES. The number is on your TennCare card.

The toll-free numbers are also listed below:

- Amerigroup
866-840-4991
- BlueCare
888-747-8955
- United Health Care Community Plan
800-690-1606

NEED HELP WITH THE SELF-REFERRAL?



ECF

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- Middle Tennessee Regional Office
(800) 654-4839
- East Tennessee Regional Office
(888) 531-9876

MORE INFORMATION



ECF

Learn more about the Employment and Community First CHOICES Program here:

- tn.gov/tenncare/long-term-services-supports/employment-and-community-first-choices.html





FAMILY SUPPORT



FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM



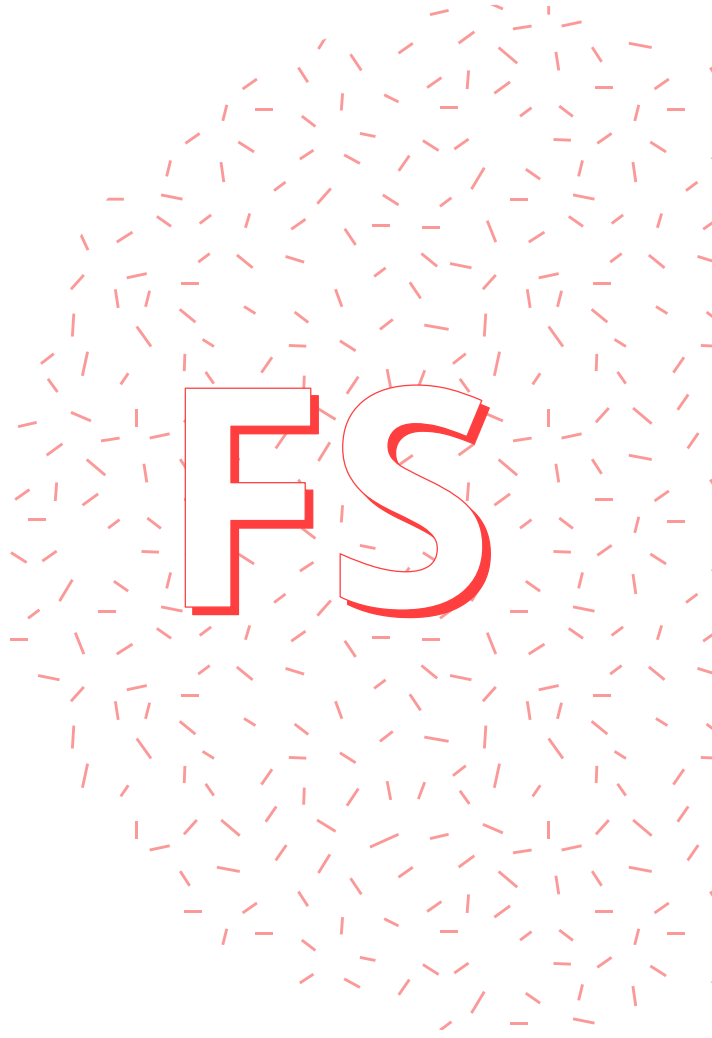
FS

The Family Support Program is designed to assist individuals with severe disabilities and their families to remain together in their homes and communities.

The primary purpose of the program is to support:

- Families who have school-aged or younger children with severe disabilities
- Adults with severe disabilities who choose to live with their families
- Adults with severe disabilities not supported by other residential programs funded by state or federal funds

FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM



Services can include but are not limited to: Respite care, day care services, home modifications, equipment, supplies, personal assistance, transportation, homemaker services, housing costs, health-related needs, nursing and counseling.

Services are flexible and responsive to families and their needs. An essential element of the Family Support Program is family and consumer involvement. Local and District Councils have been established and meet on a regular basis to oversee and provide advice on the distribution of local services.

HOW TO APPLY?



There is a Family Support Agency for every county in the state

Contact the DIDD Regional Office for information about the Family Support agency in your county.

Current Family Support Coordinators and contact information can be found here:

tn.gov/didd/for-consumers/family-support.html



OTHER PROGRAMS

MAPS PROGRAM



MAPS

Medicaid Alternative Pathways to Independence (MAPs) is a new program designed to **enable** and **empower** people living with intellectual and developmental disabilities and support them on a pathway to individual success and achievement.

Focuses on the establishment of natural, community networks and living skills to **support and sustain independence.**

Provide a **pathway** to participation, contribution, and the rewards of independent achievement.

MAPS PROGRAM



MAPS

The **Medicaid Alternative Pathways** (MAPs) to Independence Program is for people who want to:

- Develop independent living skills
- Create networks with people, places, and activities in their community
- Create travel routes and get around the community more independently
- Get a job and grow professionally
- Use enabling technology to increase independence in all areas of life

MAPS PROGRAM



MAPS

Enrollment will target:

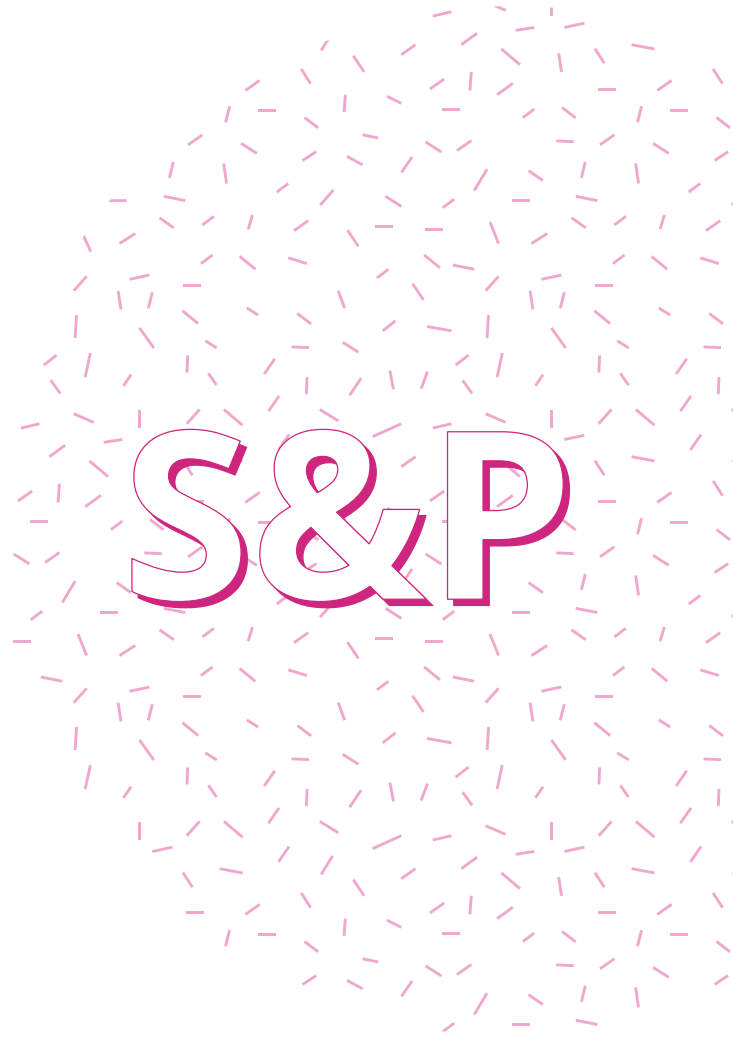
- High school students during the three years leading up to graduation
- Young adults who have recently exited the school system, and
- People who are waiting for traditional waiver services.

Program enrollment will be limited to 3 years, with an annual budget of up to \$20,000.

Enrollment began November 1, 2022.

tn.gov/didd/maps

SEATING AND POSITIONING CLINICS



Manufactures custom-molded wheelchair seating and positioning devices

Optimal positioning can improve comfort, ensure optimal health, prevent skin breakdown

Three clinics in each region and a mobile clinic for those who live far away

Referral and eligibility information can be found here: [Seating & Positioning \(tn.gov\)](https://www.tn.gov)



Questions? Email me!
Krystyne.brown@tn.gov

**THANK
YOU!**