

How do I express interest in Employment and Community First

Complete the online referral at: <https://perlss.tennCare.tn.gov/externalreferral>

And complete a Medicaid application at: <https://tenncareconnect.tn.gov/>

OR

If you are not on TennCare:



You can call your local Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Regional Office (DIDD) for free:

- West Tennessee Regional Office (800) 308-2586
- Middle Tennessee Regional Office (800) 654-4839
- East Tennessee Regional Office (888) 531-9876

If you are already on TennCare:

If your health plan is Wellpoint, BlueCare or UnitedHealthcare Community Plan, you can call them for free:

- BlueCare (888) 747-8955
- UnitedHealthcare Community Plan (800) 690-1606
- Wellpoint (833) 731-2153

To Qualify for Employment and Community First Choices (ECF):

Provide proof of an intellectual or developmental disability. This is considered “at risk” of nursing home placement. You can also qualify if you meet nursing home level of care.

- An intellectual disability must start before the age of 18.
- A developmental disability must start before the age of 22.

As of January 2024, the person’s income can’t be more than the following amount:

- \$2,829 per month if the person is approved with nursing facility level of care.
- \$1,883 per month if the person is not approved with nursing facility level of care, but is approved with at risk level of care.
- \$3,138 per month if the person is working and has less than \$943 in unearned income.
- The total value of things you own can't be more than \$2,000 (The home where you live doesn't count); AND you can't have given away or sold anything for less than what it's worth in the last five (5) years.

