

OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Residential Options Waiver (ROW), a 1915(c) waiver, is to assist recipients of this service in leading healthy, independent, productive lives to the fullest extent possible and to promote the full exercise of their rights as citizens of Louisiana. Services are provided with the goal of promoting independence through strengthening the individual's capacity for self-care and self-sufficiency. ROW is a service system centered on the needs and preferences of the recipients and supports the integration of recipients within their communities.

ROW provides an opportunity for individuals with developmental disabilities to transition from intermediate care facility/developmental disabilities or nursing home facility placement by creating community-based alternatives in home settings along with an array of comprehensive supports for those individuals with intensive and/or complex needs.

There is no age restriction as part of the ROW eligibility determination.

The objectives of the ROW are to:

- Promote independence for recipients through the provision of services meeting the highest standards of quality and national best practices, while ensuring health and safety through a comprehensive system of recipient safeguards;
- Offer an alternative to institutionalization;
- Support recipients and their families to exercise their rights and share responsibility for their programs regardless of the method of service delivery; and
- Offer access to services on a short-term basis that would protect the health and safety of the recipient if the family or other caregiver were unable to continue to provide care and supervision.

The Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) Bureau of Health Services Financing (BHSF) is the single state Medicaid agency that maintains administrative and supervisory oversight of the ROW waiver. DHH designates the authority for implementation and programmatic oversight of the waiver to the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD)/Waiver Supports and Services (WSS) section through an interagency agreement.

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Services are accessed through a single point of entry within OCDD. All waiver recipients choose their support coordination and direct service provider agencies through the freedom of choice process. All services must be prior authorized and delivered in accordance with an approved Plan of Care (POC), which is approved at the OCDD Regional Office/Districts/Authority level. Prior authorization is completed through an independent entity contracted by DHH.