

Fact Sheet

Home & Community-Based Services

Services Payments for the Elderly and Disabled (SPED) program & Expanded-SPED program

Background:

As people age or experience injury, their abilities can change. People choose to address their changing needs in individual ways, and “one size” does not fit

all. North Dakota provides home and community-based services through several programs that serve different needs.

Programs include:

- Service Payments for the Elderly and Disabled (SPED) program,
- Expanded Service Payments for the Elderly and Disabled (Expanded-SPED) program, and
- Medicaid waivers for home and community-based services.

The SPED program provides services for people who are older or physically disabled and who have difficulty completing tasks that enable them to live independently at home.

The Expanded Service Payments for the Elderly and Disabled program (Expanded-SPED) was launched in 1994 to pay for in-home and community-based services for people who would otherwise receive care in a licensed basic care facility. The program was developed based on the rationale that if the state was going to pay for basic care services for low-income individuals, it should also pay for less expensive alternatives to allow those same people to stay in their homes. Expanded-SPED clients must be Medicaid recipients.

The SPED and Expanded-SPED programs pay for a variety of services to sustain individuals in their homes and communities. Services funded by these programs are provided by both independent contractors and agency providers who meet competency criteria. Services are

These programs address consumer choice, and also focus on individual needs.

available in many rural and urban areas, and individuals can choose who provides their care.

Another Option: People who meet the criteria for nursing home care, but have needs that can be met while living in their own homes may be eligible for services funded under another program, the Medicaid waiver. (*Another fact sheet is available explaining that program’s services and eligibility criteria.*)

SPED & Expanded –SPED Covered Services:

- **Case Management** - Assesses needs, helps with care planning, provider selection, referrals, and service monitoring
- **Respite Care** – Provides temporary relief to the full-time caregiver
- **Personal or Attendant Care Service** - Helps with bathing, dressing, transferring, toileting, and supervision
- **Adult Family Foster Care** - Provides a safe, supervised family living environment, 24-hours per day in a state-licensed setting
- **Homemaker** - Provides house cleaning, laundry, and/or meal preparation services
- **Chore Service** - Includes snow removal and heavy cleaning
- **Emergency Response System (Lifeline)** - Provides telephone emergency response
- **Family Home Care** - Reimburses a family caregiver who meets the relationship requirements defined by state law and resides in a client’s home 24-hours per day
- **Environmental Modifications (Limited)** - Modifies the home to enhance client independence (e.g., install safety rails)

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Qualifying for Services:

SPED Program Criteria

- Has liquid assets of less than \$50,000, and
- Is unable to pay for services, and
- Is impaired in four Activities of Daily Living involving basic needs such as bathing, dressing, toileting, eating, etc., OR in five Instrumental Activities of Daily Living that require a higher level of cognitive or physical ability to perform such as driving, managing money, shopping, etc., and
- Has impairments that have lasted or are expected to last three months or more

OR

- **If under age 18**, has been screened for nursing facility level-of-care, and
- Is not eligible for the Aged & Disabled nor Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Waivers, and
- Is not living in an institution, dormitory, or congregate housing, and
- Is capable of directing own care or has a legally responsible party, and
- Has needs within the scope of covered services, and
- the service need is not due to mental illness or mental retardation

Expanded-SPED Criteria

- Receives or is eligible for Medicaid, and
- Receives or is eligible for Social Security Income (SSI), and
- Is not severely impaired in his or her ability to handle toileting, transferring, eating, and
- Is impaired in three of these four daily activities: meal preparation, housework, laundry, or taking medication

OR

- Has health, welfare, or safety needs, including supervision or structured environment, otherwise requiring care in a basic care facility, and
- Is not living in an institution or dormitory, and
- Has needs within the scope of covered services

Did You Know:

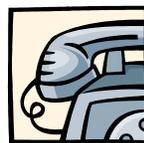
- SPED funding is 95 percent state general funds and 5 percent county matching funds.
- Expanded-SPED funding is 100 percent state general funds.
- In addition, some individuals who do not qualify for the SPED or Expanded-SPED programs, receive home and community-based services funded by County Social Service Boards.
- In SFY 2003, 72% of SPED recipients were female and 28% were male, and 73% of Ex-SPED clients were female and 27% were male.

Program Participation Data *State Fiscal Year 2003*

Program	Clients	Annual Expenditures
SPED	2,007	\$6,381,446
Expanded-SPED	233	\$535,909

Percentage of clients younger than age 65	SPED	Expanded-SPED
	19%	43%

Percentage of clients age 85 and older	SPED	Expanded-SPED
	33%	15%



To Apply for Services
Contact a County Social Service Office

Another Resource:

North Dakota Senior Info Line
1-800-451-8693
www.ndseniorinfo.com

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