

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)

Who is this program for?

This program can help blind, aged or disabled individuals pay for in-home services such as shopping, cooking, and personal care, thus helping individuals remain in their homes.

What are the eligibility requirements?

The need for services is evaluated at a home interview conducted by a county social worker. State guidelines determine the types of services to be provided. Family, friends and health providers can offer supporting information. Income requirements are the same as those for the Supplemental Security Income program (SSI).

IHSS cases are funded by one of three programs in California: Personal Care Services Program (PCSP), IHSS Residual Program or IHSS Plus Waiver. PCSP covers those who are eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal, while the other programs cover individuals who meet IHSS eligibility requirements but who are not eligible for full-scope Medi-Cal.

If approved, the disabled individual will receive notification on the types of services and number of hours authorized for those services. They could include personal care, household tasks and certain paramedical services.

How are services delivered?

Individuals must hire someone to provide the approved services. These persons can be friends or family members or the individual may choose to have services provided by county contracted IHSS providers. The State issues checks for all individual provider payments.

What is the cost?

Those who meet SSI income requirements do not pay for IHSS services. Those who meet resource limits but whose incomes are over the SSI limits will pay for a portion of their IHSS services, depending on income.

Do resources count?

Yes, resources count for this program.

How to apply?

Interested individuals need to schedule in-home interviews.

Contact information:

Call the local DPSS office for scheduling. For questions, call 1-888-678-4477. For assistance and applications, call 1-888-944-4477.

Note: Make certain that clients and providers fill out the required timesheets each month. If the clients are using county-contracted IHSS providers, they should contact their social workers to find out the hourly rate charged.