

**441—22.2(225D) Eligibility and application requirements.** To be determined eligible for funding for services through the autism support program, an individual must meet the following requirements:

**22.2(1)** An individual shall submit an application to the department using a standardized application form available through the administrator's and the department's websites, members of the provider network, the regional autism assistance program, and advocacy organizations.

**22.2(2)** An applicant for autism program services shall be less than the age of 14 at the time of application for the program. Proof of age must be provided at the time of application. An individual who reaches the age of 14 prior to receipt of the maximum benefits of the program may continue to receive services from the program in accordance with the individual's treatment plan, up to a maximum of 24 months of applied behavioral analysis treatment.

**22.2(3)** An individual shall have a diagnosis of autism based on a diagnostic assessment of autism dated 24 months or less from the date of application for the program.

**22.2(4)** An individual shall be determined ineligible for coverage of applied behavioral analysis services under the medical assistance program, Iowa Code section 514C.28, Iowa Code section 514C.31, or other private insurance coverage. Proof of insurance coverage and noneligibility for coverage for applied behavioral analysis shall be provided at the time of application and shall include a written denial of coverage or a benefits summary indicating that the applied behavioral analysis treatment or applied behavior analysis treatment is not a covered benefit for which the applicant is eligible under the Medicaid program, Iowa Code section 514C.28, Iowa Code section 514C.31, or other private insurance coverage.

**22.2(5)** An individual shall have a household income equal to or less than 500 percent of the federal poverty level. Information needed to determine household income using modified adjusted gross income methodology shall be identified on the program application. Household size will be determined according to the standards in this chapter. The information shall be provided at the time of application.

**22.2(6)** The department shall provide to the parent or guardian a written notice of decision determining initial eligibility or denial within 30 calendar days of receipt of the application.

**22.2(7)** The department shall refer an applicant determined to be an eligible individual to care coordination services. The referral will occur within 5 business days of determination of eligibility for the program. Care coordination services will be provided by the University of Iowa regional autism assistance program (RAP) or an integrated health home. Eligible individuals who reside in counties where integrated health homes for children with a serious emotional disturbance are operational may choose to receive care coordination through the University of Iowa RAP program or an integrated health home that serves residents of the eligible individual's county of residence. Care coordination is not required as a condition of receiving services through the autism support program.

**22.2(8)** The department shall provide information to an applicant determined to be an eligible individual regarding all available administrators. The eligible individual may choose any available administrator.

**22.2(9)** The administrator shall maintain a list of individuals determined eligible for the program but unable to access services due to lack of available providers and shall work to connect eligible individuals on the list to network providers.

**22.2(10)** The department shall stop processing applications at the point where available funds are fully obligated for eligible individuals and additional eligible individuals would cause expenditures in excess of the funds available to the program. The department shall maintain a waiting list of individuals denied access to the program due to lack of available funds. If additional funds become available, the department shall contact individuals on the list in order of the earliest date and time of the receipt of the original application. The applicant shall be allowed 30 calendar days to submit an updated application and any required information needed to determine eligibility. If the applicant does not submit required information, the applicant will be denied eligibility and removed from the waiting list maintained for individuals denied access to the program due to lack of funding. The age of the applicant at the time of the most recent application will be used when determining eligibility for the program.

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