



Service Payments for the Elderly and Disabled (SPED) Program

The **Service Payments for the Elderly and Disabled Program (SPED)** and **Expanded Service Payments for the Elderly and Disabled Program (ExSPED)** were created to offer a variety of services and support that allow people to stay in their homes instead of getting care in a nursing home.

SERVICES OFFERED THROUGH SPED AND EXSPED:

Adult Day Care: Minimum of three hours per day of supervised care in a group setting

Adult Family Foster Care: A safe, supervised family-living setting in a state-licensed home

Case Management: Process that assesses a client's needs, explores service options, decides if a client qualifies for HCBS services, and provides a link between community resources and qualified service providers

Chore Service: Snow removal and heavy cleaning

Emergency Response System: Telephone emergency response (Lifeline)

Environmental Modification: Select area home remodels to help people live more independently

Homemaker Services: House cleaning, laundry and/or cooking meals

Non-Medical Transportation: Provides a ride and, if needed, goes with a person to the post office, bank or grocery store

Personal Care (SPED only): Helps with activities such as bathing, dressing, transferring and toileting

Respite Care: Short-term relief to full-time caregivers

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who qualifies for services under the SPED program?

This program is for older adults and people with physical disabilities who have trouble performing daily living activities. You may qualify if you meet these guidelines.

- Liquid assets of less than \$50,000 (such as cash, stocks, bonds or certificates of deposit).
- Income is taken into consideration; there may be a cost share (service fee).
- A case manager will assess how much help you need with activities such as bathing, transferring, toileting, dressing, laundry and housework. The amount of help you need will decide if you qualify for services.
- Need for help is expected to last three months or more.

Who qualifies for services under the ExSPED program?

This program is for older adults, people with physical disabilities and people with mental health conditions who have trouble performing daily living activities. You may qualify if you meet these guidelines.

- Must be on Medicaid, which is decided by an eligibility worker at your local county office.
- Receive Social Security Income (SSI) or your income is at or below the SSI level.
- A case manager will assess how much help you need with activities such as bathing, transferring, toileting, dressing, laundry and housework. The amount of help you need will decide if you qualify for services.

What if I do not qualify for SPED or ExSPED, or if the help I need is not available under these programs? Are there other options to receive services?

Possibly. North Dakota offers Home and Community-Based Services through several programs. Each program has rules that decide if you qualify based on your level of need. The following programs require you to be on Medicaid.

- Medicaid Waivers for Home and Community-Based Services
- Medicaid State Plan - Personal Care Services

Who pays for the services?

You may qualify for services to be paid in full by the SPED program or you may have to pay part of the cost. This is called a service fee which is the amount you must pay before the SPED program will pay for the care you received. It works like a monthly deductible.

If you qualify for services under the ExSPED program, there is no service fee.

Who provides the services?

Services are provided by a Qualified Service Provider (QSP) who is an agency or an individual such as a family member, neighbor or friend that has met the standards set by the N.D. Department of Human Services (DHS).

Who will pay the QSP?

The QSP will send a bill for the services they provided for you to DHS and they will receive payment from DHS. If you have a service fee, the QSP will send you a bill for your portion of the cost.

Can I choose my QSP?

Yes. You have the right to choose a QSP that meets your needs.



For information on Home and Community-Based Services in your area, call the Aging & Disability Resource LINK toll-free at **1-855-GO2-LINK (1-855-462-5465)**, log on to **www.carechoice.nd.gov** or contact the local county social services office in your area.