FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will my child’s Medicaid Waiver automatically transfer to South Carolina? You may be surprised to learn that Medicaid coverage and benefits cannot be switched from one state to another. You’ll need to reapply for Medicaid in South Carolina and this can create big problems for individuals who require uninterrupted care. Your loved one may be receiving services via a Medicaid waiver in one state and there might not be a comparable waiver in our state. If there is a comparative waiver, there may be a very long wait list for benefits. Wait lists can be several months to several years long.

What about other health care options? You’ll need to research the doctors, therapists, and other service providers available and reach out to local advocacy organizations for referrals. If you have a newborn or toddler, connect with early intervention providers and become familiar with the services available in your new location.

What do I do about my child’s Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits? Because SSI consists of both federal funds and state supplements, your total payment may change, based on shared living expenses (in-kind support) and differences in state programs. You’ll want to contact Social Security to update them on your new location and get more information.

THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE MOVING TO SC WHEN YOU HAVE A CHILD WITH I/DD

It can be stressful when making a move to a new place, but for a family with a child who has intellectual or developmental disabilities, that stress can be overwhelming. In order to avoid as many surprises as possible, it’s a good idea to gather as much information as you can before you move. We have put together a list of things to consider before making the move to South Carolina. This list is not all inclusive, but it provides a starting place as you consider making the transition to South Carolina with your loved one with special needs.

Resources You May Find Helpful

South Carolina Department of Disabilities & Special Needs
Social Security - Change Your Address
SC DHHS - Medicaid - Frequently Asked Questions
Alternatives to Guardianship & Supported Decision Making
South Carolina Department of Education - State Regulations and Resources