



Assisted Living Waiver (ALW) Enrollment Process

ALW Enrollment Process

What is the Assisted Living Waiver Program?

*The California Medi-Cal **Assisted Living Waiver (ALW)** was designed to create **affordable housing options** to seniors and individuals with disabilities **at an affordable monthly rate.***

To be eligible for ALW Approval:

- **Age 21 or older**
- **Must have Medi-Cal benefits, cannot be enrolled in SCAN or PACE***
 - ***You do not need Medi-Cal benefits to apply** for the ALW. However, Medi-Cal benefits must be in place at the time of the Initial Assessment to be eligible for Approval. **
 - ***If enrolled in SCAN or PACE, care plan must be changed prior to RN Assessment** to request ALW Approval. **
- **Must be enrolled in SSI/SSP/SSD or receive enough income to pay the monthly ALW room and board rate: \$1,420.07 as of Jan. 2025**
 - ***Increase your Social Security Income after move in;** refer to Non-Medical-Out-Of-Home-Care-Rate (NMOHC) **
- **Must meet ALW Care Criteria – Require assistance with activities of daily living**
- **Able to reside safely in an assisted living facility or public subsidized housing**

Step 1: Apply

Apply online using our electronic application. Visit betahospice.com/alw to easily apply using your computer or mobile device. Prefer a printable application form? Please call **(747) 293-5777** or email alw@betahospice.com to request.

Step 2: Waitlist

The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has an active Waitlist for the ALW Program. Beta ALW DHCS current waitlist time for Community Applicants is averaging around 2-3 years.* Fortunately, it can change, and you will hopefully be released from the waitlist sooner than expected. ***Review our Waitlist & Eligibility Info Sheet to determine if you may be eligible for expedited ALW Approval.*** Our team will email you the documentation required prior to the waitlist release so you and your loved ones are prepared, and the Initial Assessment can be done promptly.

Step 3: Initial Assessment

Once you are released from the Waitlist, one of our RN Care Coordinators will contact you to schedule the Initial Assessment. **Our RN Care Coordinator will conduct an in-person or virtual assessment to determine your Medical ALW Eligibility using the DHCS Assessment Tool.**



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The DHCS Assessment Tool evaluates: Cognitive, Mood & Behavior Patterns, Communication, Hearing & Vision Patterns, Physical Functioning, Skin Condition, Diagnosis, Nutritional Status, and Medications. Once the assessment is completed, it will generate a Tier Level of Care. There are 5 Tier Levels of care. Light to moderate care generates lower tier levels, as opposed to extensive to maximum care, which will generate a higher tier level.

***Tip:** Larger Assisted Living Communities prefer to admit individuals Tiers 1-3. Smaller Board & Care Homes prefer to admit individuals Tiers 3-5.*

Step 4: Review & Approval

Once all documentation is submitted to our team and an RN Care Coordinator has completed the Initial Assessment, our administrative team will **review and submit the complete Initial Assessment packet to DHCS for Approval. If you are not eligible for ALW Approval, you will be notified prior to our submission.** *Refer to your ALW Fact Sheet to determine if you are ineligible to participate.* We will notify you once the complete initial assessment packet is submitted to DHCS for Approval. We should receive the Pended Approval within 60 days of the Initial Assessment Submission Date. During this time, we can begin to work on placement at an ALW Approved Facility.

Step 5: Secure Placement at an ALW Approved Facility

Our experienced and professional team works with **over 900+ ALW Approved facilities** to secure placement at **your ALW facility of choice.** We service **San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles, Kern, and Fresno counties.**

Get the **care you need.**

Most ALW Approved Facilities provide:

- Care and assistance **for individuals with disabilities, mobility issues or cognitive impairment** that happens with aging
- **Memory Care** for those with advanced care needs due to Alzheimer's, Dementia or other cognitive impairment
- Some specialize in care for those with **Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI)**
- Some also offer **Mental Health assistance**

Once you have 5 to 10 facilities, or a general area in mind, **our team will provide these facilities with the complete Initial Assessment packet for them to review.** This is to ensure the ALW facility can accommodate the care need requirements of the participant. If the approved facility feels the ALW participant is a good fit for their community, they will contact the ALW participant or legal representative to coordinate their own in-person assessment or invite you to tour their community. If the facility decides to admit the participant, **they will contact you to sign and complete the Admissions Agreement, as well as determine a move-in date.** *Keep in mind, availability may be limited.*



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ALW Room & Board Rate

**\$1,420.07 per month for
individuals whose monthly
income is below \$1,599.07**

OR

**\$1,440.07 per month for
individuals whose monthly
income is above \$1,599.07**

ALW Room & Board Rate will be due once a month.

Did you know?

Average costs of assisted living in California without the ALW is \$6,250 per month! Yikes.

Your ALW Room & Board rate of \$1,420.07 per month will ensure that you receive all assistance with activities of daily living and instrumental activities of daily living, medication management, recreational activities, provides three meals per day plus snacks, performing all necessary housekeeping tasks and laundry, transportation ***and more!***

ALW Room & Board: How does it work?

The **ALW Facility** will be able to utilize the **Assisted Living Waiver to bill Medi-Cal directly** for all care provided to the ALW participant. Meaning, while participating in the ALW Program, **Medi-Cal will be covering most of the cost, providing between \$2,500 to \$4,988 in savings** monthly.

As an ALW participant you will only be required to pay the ALW Room & Board monthly rate, as Medi-Cal will cover the rest!

Tip: Increase your Social Security Income after move in; refer to **Non-Medical-Out-Of-Home-Care-Rate (NMOHC)**. A single person living in an RCFE and eligible for SSI would receive the \$1,599.07 NMOHC benefit, pay \$1,420.07 to the facility for rent, and keep \$179 as their personal allowance. A couple both on SSI/SSP and living in the same facility would receive the NMOHC rate of \$3,198.14, pay \$2,840.14 to the facility for rent, and keep \$358 each month as their personal allowance. ***Contact a Beta team member for more information regarding SSI increase. ****



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Step 6: ALW Enrollment

Be advised – Your Medi-Cal benefit eligibility response must reflect a waiver appropriate aid code with a zero (\$0) Share of Cost to finalize your ALW Enrollment. We will provide you with the information necessary to have Share of Cost removed, if needed. ALW participants cannot be enrolled in SCAN or PACE to be eligible for ALW Enrollment. ALW participant is responsible for disenrolling from SCAN or PACE services. Failure to do so can result in financial repercussions. *Contact a team member for more information.*

Once moved into an ALW Approved facility, our team will **submit the enrollment request to DHCS to finalize the enrollment for the Assisted Living Waiver.**

ALW Enrollment will be effective as of move-in date for Community or SNF Applicants.

OR

ALW Enrollment will be effective as of the Pended Approval Date for Rollover Applicants. *

*Rollover applicants are Community applicants already residing in an ALW approved facility at the time of approval. **

DHCS will finalize the enrollment within 30 days of our enrollment submission date. Once finalized, our team will provide the ALW participant or legal representative the DHCS ALW **Informing Notice** stating ALW Enrollment effective date.

As your Care Coordination Agency (CCA), we will continue to monitor and oversee ALW participants' care throughout their enrollment. One of our ALW Social Workers will be conducting virtual or in-person monthly visits to ensure the participant is receiving adequate care at the facility. One of our RN Care Coordinators will also conduct a reassessment bi-annually to identify any changes in health or care required.

Get the care you need at an affordable monthly rate.

If you have any questions about the enrollment process, please contact us for additional information.

*Beta Hospice Care
Assisted Living Waiver (ALW) Program
(747) 293-5777
alw@betahospice.com*