Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-1: Specification of the Waiver Target Group(s)

a. **Target Group(s).** Under the waiver of Section 1902(a)(10)(B) of the Act, the State limits waiver services to one or more groups or subgroups of individuals. Please see the instruction manual for specifics regarding age limits. *In accordance with 42 CFR §441.301(b)(6), select one or more waiver target groups, check each of the subgroups in the selected target group(s) that may receive services under the waiver, and specify the minimum and maximum (if any) age of individuals served in each subgroup:*

Target Group	Included	Target SubGroup	Minimum Age	Maximum Age	
				Maximum Age Limit	No Maximum Age Limit
☑ Aged or Disabled, or Both - General					
	☐	Aged			☐
	☑	Disabled (Physical)	0	64	
	☐	Disabled (Other)			
☐ Aged or Disabled, or Both - Specific Recognized Subgroups					
	☐	Brain Injury			☐
	☐	HIV/AIDS			☐
	☐	Medically Fragile			☐
	☐	Technology Dependent			☐
☐ Intellectual Disability or Developmental Disability, or Both					
	☐	Autism			☐
	☐	Developmental Disability			☐
	☐	Intellectual Disability			☐
☐ Mental Illness					
	☐	Mental Illness			
	☐	Serious Emotional Disturbance			

b. **Additional Criteria.** The State further specifies its target group(s) as follows:

Must be blind or disabled as determined by the receipt of Social Security Disability benefits or by a disability determination made through the department. Disability determinations are made according to Supplemental Security Income guidelines under Title XVI or the Social Security Act or the disability guidelines for the Medicaid Employed People with Disabilities coverage.

Applicants age 25 and over: Must be ineligible for SSI for either excess income and/or deeming of a spouse's income or resources. Members age 21 and over who are currently receiving services from the HD Waiver and are SSI eligible may remain on the waiver through age 40.

The restriction based on SSI eligibility phased out over a period of time by extending the age at which this restriction applies an additional 3 years each year. For example, in 2013 rules will allow member on SSI to continue on the waiver until age 40, in 2014 the age will go to 43, in 2015 the age will be 46. For those members that would lose their waiver services as a result of this restriction, the member is assisted by the service worker to locate other services through other HCBS waivers or state plan services. When waiting for the proposed Iowa Administrative Code to be updated, an exception to policy will be granted with the stipulation the applicant/member meets all other eligibility criteria for the HD Waiver.

Applicants under age 25 may be eligible for SSI or may be ineligible for SSI for either having excess income, deeming of a spouses or parents income/resources or a combination of both factors.

c. **Transition of Individuals Affected by Maximum Age Limitation.** When there is a maximum age limit that applies to individuals who may be served in the waiver, describe the transition planning procedures that are undertaken on behalf of participants affected by the age limit *(select one):*

- ○ **Not applicable. There is no maximum age limit**
- ◉ **The following transition planning procedures are employed for participants who will reach the waiver's maximum age limit.**

Specify:

Participants, upon reaching the age of 65, will continue to be eligible for services through the HCBS Elderly Waiver. The SSI eligibility restriction will be phased out over a period of time by extending the age an additional 3 years each year. For example, in 2012 rules will allow consumer on SSI to continue on the waiver until age 37, in 2013 the age will go to 40, in 2014 the age will be 43. For those members that would lose their waiver services as a result of this restriction, the member is assisted by the service worker to locate other services through other HCBS waivers or state plan services.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-2: Individual Cost Limit (1 of 2)

a. **Individual Cost Limit.** The following individual cost limit applies when determining whether to deny home and community-based services or entrance to the waiver to an otherwise eligible individual *(select one)*. Please note that a State may have only ONE individual cost limit for the purposes of determining eligibility for the waiver:

- ◉ **No Cost Limit.** The State does not apply an individual cost limit. *Do not complete Item B-2-b or item B-2-c.*
- ○ **Cost Limit in Excess of Institutional Costs.** The State refuses entrance to the waiver to any otherwise eligible individual when the State reasonably expects that the cost of the home and community-based services furnished to that individual would exceed the cost of a level of care specified for the waiver up to an amount specified by the State. *Complete Items B-2-b and B-2-c.*

The limit specified by the State is *(select one)*

- ○ **A level higher than 100% of the institutional average.**

  Specify the percentage:

- ○ **Other**

  Specify:

- ○ **Institutional Cost Limit.** Pursuant to 42 CFR 441.301(a)(3), the State refuses entrance to the waiver to any otherwise eligible individual when the State reasonably expects that the cost of the home and community-based services furnished to that individual would exceed 100% of the cost of the level of care specified for the waiver. *Complete Items B-2-b and B-2-c.*
- ○ **Cost Limit Lower Than Institutional Costs.** The State refuses entrance to the waiver to any otherwise qualified individual when the State reasonably expects that the cost of home and community-based services furnished to that individual would exceed the following amount specified by the State that is less than the cost of a level of care specified for the waiver.

Specify the basis of the limit, including evidence that the limit is sufficient to assure the health and welfare of waiver participants. Complete Items B-2-b and B-2-c.

The cost limit specified by the State is *(select one)*:

The following dollar amount:

Specify dollar amount:

The dollar amount *(select one)*

Is adjusted each year that the waiver is in effect by applying the following formula:

Specify the formula:

May be adjusted during the period the waiver is in effect. The State will submit a waiver amendment to CMS to adjust the dollar amount.

The following percentage that is less than 100% of the institutional average:

Specify percent:

Other:

Specify:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-2: Individual Cost Limit (2 of 2)

Answers provided in Appendix B-2-a indicate that you do not need to complete this section.

b. **Method of Implementation of the Individual Cost Limit.** When an individual cost limit is specified in Item B-2-a, specify the procedures that are followed to determine in advance of waiver entrance that the individual's health and welfare can be assured within the cost limit:

c. **Participant Safeguards.** When the State specifies an individual cost limit in Item B-2-a and there is a change in the participant's condition or circumstances post-entrance to the waiver that requires the provision of services in an amount that exceeds the cost limit in order to assure the participant's health and welfare, the State has established the following safeguards to avoid an adverse impact on the participant *(check each that applies)*:

- [ ] **The participant is referred to another waiver that can accommodate the individual's needs.**
- [ ] **Additional services in excess of the individual cost limit may be authorized.**

Specify the procedures for authorizing additional services, including the amount that may be authorized:

- [ ] **Other safeguard(s)**

Specify:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-3: Number of Individuals Served (1 of 4)

a. **Unduplicated Number of Participants.** The following table specifies the maximum number of unduplicated participants who are served in each year that the waiver is in effect. The State will submit a waiver amendment to CMS to modify the number of participants specified for any year(s), including when a modification is necessary due to legislative appropriation or another reason. The number of unduplicated participants specified in this table is basis for the cost-neutrality calculations in Appendix J:

Table: B-3-a

Waiver Year	Unduplicated Number of Participants
Year 1	3762
Year 2	4036
Year 3	4157
Year 4	4282
Year 5	4411

b. **Limitation on the Number of Participants Served at Any Point in Time.** Consistent with the unduplicated number of participants specified in Item B-3-a, the State may limit to a lesser number the number of participants who will be served at any point in time during a waiver year. Indicate whether the State limits the number of participants in this way: *(select one)*:

- ○ **The State does not limit the number of participants that it serves at any point in time during a waiver year.**
- ◉ **The State limits the number of participants that it serves at any point in time during a waiver year.**

The limit that applies to each year of the waiver period is specified in the following table:

Table: B-3-b

Waiver Year	Maximum Number of Participants Served At Any Point During the Year
Year 1	3386
Year 2	3633
Year 3	2800
Year 4	2800
Year 5	2800

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-3: Number of Individuals Served (2 of 4)

c. **Reserved Waiver Capacity.** The State may reserve a portion of the participant capacity of the waiver for specified purposes (e.g., provide for the community transition of institutionalized persons or furnish waiver services to individuals experiencing a crisis) subject to CMS review and approval. The State *(select one)*:

- ◉ **Not applicable. The state does not reserve capacity.**
- ○ **The State reserves capacity for the following purpose(s).**

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-3: Number of Individuals Served (3 of 4)

d. **Scheduled Phase-In or Phase-Out.** Within a waiver year, the State may make the number of participants who are served subject to a phase-in or phase-out schedule *(select one)*:

- ◉ **The waiver is not subject to a phase-in or a phase-out schedule.**
- ○ **The waiver is subject to a phase-in or phase-out schedule that is included in Attachment #1 to Appendix B-3. This schedule constitutes an intra-year limitation on the number of participants who are served in the waiver.**

e. **Allocation of Waiver Capacity.**

Select one:

- ◉ **Waiver capacity is allocated/managed on a statewide basis.**
- ○ **Waiver capacity is allocated to local/regional non-state entities.**

Specify: (a) the entities to which waiver capacity is allocated; (b) the methodology that is used to allocate capacity and how often the methodology is reevaluated; and, (c) policies for the reallocation of unused capacity among local/regional non-state entities:

f. **Selection of Entrants to the Waiver.** Specify the policies that apply to the selection of individuals for entrance to the waiver:

The state legislation mandates that individuals are arranged on the wait list based on the date of their application.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-3: Number of Individuals Served - Attachment #1 (4 of 4)

Answers provided in Appendix B-3-d indicate that you do not need to complete this section.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-4: Eligibility Groups Served in the Waiver

a.

1. **State Classification.** The State is a *(select one)*:
   - ◉ **§1634 State**
   - ○ **SSI Criteria State**
   - ○ **209(b) State**
2. **Miller Trust State.**
   Indicate whether the State is a Miller Trust State *(select one)*:
   - ○ **No**
   - ◉ **Yes**

b. **Medicaid Eligibility Groups Served in the Waiver.** Individuals who receive services under this waiver are eligible under the following eligibility groups contained in the State plan. The State applies all applicable federal financial participation limits under the plan. *Check all that apply*:

Eligibility Groups Served in the Waiver (excluding the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217)

- ☐ **Low income families with children as provided in §1931 of the Act**
- ☑ **SSI recipients**

- [ ] **Aged, blind or disabled in 209(b) states who are eligible under 42 CFR §435.121**
- [ ] **Optional State supplement recipients**
- [ ] **Optional categorically needy aged and/or disabled individuals who have income at:**

Select one:

- ○ **100% of the Federal poverty level (FPL)**
- ○ **% of FPL, which is lower than 100% of FPL.**

Specify percentage:

- [x] **Working individuals with disabilities who buy into Medicaid (BBA working disabled group as provided in §1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XIII)) of the Act)**
- [ ] **Working individuals with disabilities who buy into Medicaid (TWWIIA Basic Coverage Group as provided in §1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XV) of the Act)**
- [ ] **Working individuals with disabilities who buy into Medicaid (TWWIIA Medical Improvement Coverage Group as provided in §1902(a)(10)(A)(ii)(XVI) of the Act)**
- [ ] **Disabled individuals age 18 or younger who would require an institutional level of care (TEFRA 134 eligibility group as provided in §1902(e)(3) of the Act)**
- [ ] **Medically needy in 209(b) States (42 CFR §435.330)**
- [ ] **Medically needy in 1634 States and SSI Criteria States (42 CFR §435.320, §435.322 and §435.324)**
- [x] **Other specified groups (include only statutory/regulatory reference to reflect the additional groups in the State plan that may receive services under this waiver)**

Specify:

The Iowa state plan includes the following eligibility groups covered under this waiver:
- Parents and other caretaker relatives specified at 435.110
- Pregnant women specified at 435.116
- Children specified at 435.118

Special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217) *Note: When the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217 is included, Appendix B-5 must be completed*

- ○ **No. The State does not furnish waiver services to individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217.** *Appendix B-5 is not submitted.*
- ◉ **Yes. The State furnishes waiver services to individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217.**

Select one and complete Appendix B-5.

- ○ **All individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217**
- ◉ **Only the following groups of individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217**

Check each that applies:

- [x] **A special income level equal to:**

Select one:

- ◉ **300% of the SSI Federal Benefit Rate (FBR)**
- ○ **A percentage of FBR, which is lower than 300% (42 CFR §435.236)**

Specify percentage:

- ○ **A dollar amount which is lower than 300%.**

Specify dollar amount:

- [ ] **Aged, blind and disabled individuals who meet requirements that are more restrictive than the SSI program (42 CFR §435.121)**
- [ ] **Medically needy without spenddown in States which also provide Medicaid to recipients of SSI (42 CFR §435.320, §435.322 and §435.324)**
- [ ] **Medically needy without spend down in 209(b) States (42 CFR §435.330)**
- [ ] **Aged and disabled individuals who have income at:**

Select one:

- ○ **100% of FPL**
- ○ **% of FPL, which is lower than 100%.**

Specify percentage amount:

- [ ] **Other specified groups (include only statutory/regulatory reference to reflect the additional groups in the State plan that may receive services under this waiver)**

Specify:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (1 of 7)

In accordance with 42 CFR §441.303(e), Appendix B-5 must be completed when the State furnishes waiver services to individuals in the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217, as indicated in Appendix B-4. Post-eligibility applies only to the 42 CFR §435.217 group.

a. **Use of Spousal Impoverishment Rules.** Indicate whether spousal impoverishment rules are used to determine eligibility for the special home and community-based waiver group under 42 CFR §435.217:

Note: For the five-year period beginning January 1, 2014, the following instructions are mandatory. The following box should be checked for all waivers that furnish waiver services to the 42 CFR §435.217 group effective at any point during this time period.

- [ ] **Spousal impoverishment rules under §1924 of the Act are used to determine the eligibility of individuals with a community spouse for the special home and community-based waiver group. In the case of a participant with a community spouse, the State uses *spousal* post-eligibility rules under §1924 of the Act.** *Complete Items B-5-e (if the selection for B-4-a-i is SSI State or §1634) or B-5-f (if the selection for B-4-a-i is 209b State) and Item B-5-g unless the state indicates that it also uses spousal post-eligibility rules for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after December 31, 2018.*

Note: The following selections apply for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after December 31, 2018 (select one).

- ◉ **Spousal impoverishment rules under §1924 of the Act are used to determine the eligibility of individuals with a community spouse for the special home and community-based waiver group.**

  In the case of a participant with a community spouse, the State elects to (*select one*):

  - ◉ **Use spousal post-eligibility rules under §1924 of the Act.** *(Complete Item B-5-b (SSI State) and Item B-5-d)*
  - ○ **Use regular post-eligibility rules under 42 CFR §435.726 (SSI State) or under §435.735 (209b State)** *(Complete Item B-5-b (SSI State). Do not complete Item B-5-d)*
- ○ **Spousal impoverishment rules under §1924 of the Act are not used to determine eligibility of individuals with a community spouse for the special home and community-based waiver group. The State uses regular post-eligibility rules for individuals with a community spouse.** *(Complete Item B-5-b (SSI State). Do not complete Item B-5-d)*

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (2 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after December 31, 2018.

b. Regular Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income: SSI State.

The State uses the post-eligibility rules at 42 CFR 435.726 for individuals who do not have a spouse or have a spouse who is not a community spouse as specified in §1924 of the Act. Payment for home and community-based waiver services is reduced by the amount remaining after deducting the following allowances and expenses from the waiver participant's income:

i. Allowance for the needs of the waiver participant (*select one*):

- ○ **The following standard included under the State plan**

  Select one:

  - ○ **SSI standard**
  - ○ **Optional State supplement standard**
  - ○ **Medically needy income standard**
  - ○ **The special income level for institutionalized persons**

    (*select one*):

    - ○ **300% of the SSI Federal Benefit Rate (FBR)**
    - ○ **A percentage of the FBR, which is less than 300%**

      Specify the percentage:
    - ○ **A dollar amount which is less than 300%.**

      Specify dollar amount:
  - ○ **A percentage of the Federal poverty level**

    Specify percentage:
  - ○ **Other standard included under the State Plan**

    Specify:
- ○ **The following dollar amount**

  Specify dollar amount: If this amount changes, this item will be revised.
- ◉ **The following formula is used to determine the needs allowance:**

  Specify:

  300% of the SSI benefit and for members who have a medical assistance income trust (Miller Trust) and additional $10 (or higher if court ordered) to pay for administrative costs.
- ○ **Other**

  Specify:

ii. Allowance for the spouse only (*select one*):

- (●) **Not Applicable**
- ( ) **The state provides an allowance for a spouse who does not meet the definition of a community spouse in §1924 of the Act. Describe the circumstances under which this allowance is provided:**

Specify:

Specify the amount of the allowance (*select one*):

- ( ) **SSI standard**
- ( ) **Optional State supplement standard**
- ( ) **Medically needy income standard**
- ( ) **The following dollar amount:**

Specify dollar amount: If this amount changes, this item will be revised.

- ( ) **The amount is determined using the following formula:**

Specify:

iii. Allowance for the family (*select one*):

- ( ) **Not Applicable (see instructions)**
- (●) **AFDC need standard**
- ( ) **Medically needy income standard**
- ( ) **The following dollar amount:**

Specify dollar amount: The amount specified cannot exceed the higher of the need standard for a family of the same size used to determine eligibility under the State's approved AFDC plan or the medically needy income standard established under 42 CFR §435.811 for a family of the same size. If this amount changes, this item will be revised.

- ( ) **The amount is determined using the following formula:**

Specify:

- ( ) **Other**

Specify:

iv. Amounts for incurred medical or remedial care expenses not subject to payment by a third party, specified in 42 §CFR 435.726:

a. Health insurance premiums, deductibles and co-insurance charges
b. Necessary medical or remedial care expenses recognized under State law but not covered under the State's Medicaid plan, subject to reasonable limits that the State may establish on the amounts of these expenses.

Select one:

- Not Applicable (see instructions)*Note: If the State protects the maximum amount for the waiver participant, not applicable must be selected.*
- **The State does not establish reasonable limits.**
- **The State establishes the following reasonable limits**

Specify:

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (3 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after December 31, 2018.

c. Regular Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income: 209(B) State.

Answers provided in Appendix B-4 indicate that you do not need to complete this section and therefore this section is not visible.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (4 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the time periods before January 1, 2014 or after December 31, 2018.

d. Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income Using Spousal Impoverishment Rules

The State uses the post-eligibility rules of §1924(d) of the Act (spousal impoverishment protection) to determine the contribution of a participant with a community spouse toward the cost of home and community-based care if it determines the individual's eligibility under §1924 of the Act. There is deducted from the participant's monthly income a personal needs allowance (as specified below), a community spouse's allowance and a family allowance as specified in the State Medicaid Plan. The State must also protect amounts for incurred expenses for medical or remedial care (as specified below).

i. Allowance for the personal needs of the waiver participant

(*select one*):

- **SSI standard**
- **Optional State supplement standard**
- **Medically needy income standard**
- **The special income level for institutionalized persons**
- **A percentage of the Federal poverty level**

  Specify percentage:

- **The following dollar amount:**

  Specify dollar amount: If this amount changes, this item will be revised

- **The following formula is used to determine the needs allowance:**

  Specify formula:

- **Other**

  Specify:

300% of the SSI benefit and for consumers who have a medical assitance income trust (Miller Trust) and additional $10 (or higher if court ordered) to pay for administrative costs.

ii. **If the allowance for the personal needs of a waiver participant with a community spouse is different from the amount used for the individual's maintenance allowance under 42 CFR §435.726 or 42 CFR §435.735, explain why this amount is reasonable to meet the individual's maintenance needs in the community.**

Select one:

- (●) **Allowance is the same**
- ( ) **Allowance is different.**

Explanation of difference:

iii. **Amounts for incurred medical or remedial care expenses not subject to payment by a third party, specified in 42 CFR §435.726:**

a. Health insurance premiums, deductibles and co-insurance charges
b. Necessary medical or remedial care expenses recognized under State law but not covered under the State's Medicaid plan, subject to reasonable limits that the State may establish on the amounts of these expenses.

Select one:

- ( ) **Not Applicable (see instructions)***Note: If the State protects the maximum amount for the waiver participant, not applicable must be selected.*
- (●) **The State does not establish reasonable limits.**
- ( ) **The State uses the same reasonable limits as are used for regular (non-spousal) post-eligibility.**

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility
B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (5 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the five-year period beginning January 1, 2014.

e. **Regular Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income: §1634 State - 2014 through 2018.**

Answers provided in Appendix B-5-a indicate that you do not need to complete this section and therefore this section is not visible.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility
B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (6 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the five-year period beginning January 1, 2014.

f. **Regular Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income: 209(B) State - 2014 through 2018.**

Answers provided in Appendix B-5-a indicate that you do not need to complete this section and therefore this section is not visible.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility
B-5: Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income (7 of 7)

Note: The following selections apply for the five-year period beginning January 1, 2014.

g. **Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income Using Spousal Impoverishment Rules - 2014 through 2018.**

The State uses the post-eligibility rules of §1924(d) of the Act (spousal impoverishment protection) to determine the contribution of a participant with a community spouse toward the cost of home and community-based care. There is deducted from the participant's monthly income a personal needs allowance (as specified below), a community spouse's allowance and a family allowance as specified in the State Medicaid Plan. The State must also protect amounts for incurred expenses for medical or remedial care (as specified below).

Answers provided in Appendix B-5-a indicate that you do not need to complete this section and therefore this section is not visible.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-6: Evaluation/Reevaluation of Level of Care

As specified in 42 CFR §441.302(c), the State provides for an evaluation (and periodic reevaluations) of the need for the level (s) of care specified for this waiver, when there is a reasonable indication that an individual may need such services in the near future (one month or less), but for the availability of home and community-based waiver services.

a. **Reasonable Indication of Need for Services.** In order for an individual to be determined to need waiver services, an individual must require: (a) the provision of at least one waiver service, as documented in the service plan, and (b) the provision of waiver services at least monthly or, if the need for services is less than monthly, the participant requires regular monthly monitoring which must be documented in the service plan. Specify the State's policies concerning the reasonable indication of the need for services:

i. **Minimum number of services.**

The minimum number of waiver services (one or more) that an individual must require in order to be determined to need waiver services is: 1

ii. **Frequency of services.** The State requires (select one):

- ○ **The provision of waiver services at least monthly**
- ◉ **Monthly monitoring of the individual when services are furnished on a less than monthly basis**

If the State also requires a minimum frequency for the provision of waiver services other than monthly (e.g., quarterly), specify the frequency:

HCBS waiver services must be accessed at least once every calendar quarter by the member.

b. **Responsibility for Performing Evaluations and Reevaluations.** Level of care evaluations and reevaluations are performed (*select one*):

- ○ **Directly by the Medicaid agency**
- ○ **By the operating agency specified in Appendix A**
- ◉ **By an entity under contract with the Medicaid agency.**

Specify the entity:

The Iowa Medicaid Enterprise Medical Services Unit shall be responsible for determining the level of care based on the completed assessment tool and supporting documentation from the medical professional while supplemental information may also come from the service worker, applicant, or other appropriate professional.

- ○ **Other**

Specify:

c. **Qualifications of Individuals Performing Initial Evaluation:** Per 42 CFR §441.303(c)(1), specify the educational/professional qualifications of individuals who perform the initial evaluation of level of care for waiver applicants:

Medical Professionals - licensed physician, physician assistant or advanced registered nurse practitioner - perform the initial evaluation.

IME Medical Services Unit requires the individuals who determine the level of care be licensed registered nurses.

d. **Level of Care Criteria.** Fully specify the level of care criteria that are used to evaluate and reevaluate whether an individual needs services through the waiver and that serve as the basis of the State's level of care instrument/tool. Specify the level of care instrument/tool that is employed. State laws, regulations, and policies concerning level of care criteria and the level of care instrument/tool are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable), including the instrument/tool utilized.

The Health and Disability assessment tool used is based on the *Minimum Data Set (MDS), the individual requires supervision, or limited assistance, provided on a daily basis by the physical assistance of at least one person, for dressing and personal hygiene activities of daily living as defined by the minimum data set section G, entitled "Physical Functioning and Structural Problems"

There is no scoring system, but based on the MDS, the individual requires the establishment of a safe, secure environment due to modified independence (some difficulty in new situations only) or moderate impairment (decisions poor, cues and supervision required; never or rarely made a decision; danger to self or others) of cognitive skills for daily decision making. The following are the areas assessed:

Cognitive, Mood and behavior patterns
Physical functioning-Mobility
Skin condition
Pulmonary Status
Continence
Dressing and Personal Hygiene (ADL's)
Nutrition
Medications
Communication
Psycho-social

e. **Level of Care Instrument(s).** Per 42 CFR §441.303(c)(2), indicate whether the instrument/tool used to evaluate level of care for the waiver differs from the instrument/tool used to evaluate institutional level of care *(select one)*:

- ○ **The same instrument is used in determining the level of care for the waiver and for institutional care under the State Plan.**
- ◉ **A different instrument is used to determine the level of care for the waiver than for institutional care under the State plan.**

Describe how and why this instrument differs from the form used to evaluate institutional level of care and explain how the outcome of the determination is reliable, valid, and fully comparable.

The Assessment and Services Evaluation is the same criteria used to evaluate both waiver and institutional level of care.

The Certification for Level of Care - HCBS used for waiver services is a different tool because this also identifies the different care needs in the home setting that are not the same for an institutional setting. The results of the assessment then are used to develop the plan of care. Because the same criteria are used for both institutional care and waiver services, the outcome is reliable, and fully comparable.

f. **Process for Level of Care Evaluation/Reevaluation:** Per 42 CFR §441.303(c)(1), describe the process for evaluating waiver applicants for their need for the level of care under the waiver. If the reevaluation process differs from the evaluation process, describe the differences:

An initial assessment is initiated by the income maintenance worker and the member/family or the service worker and sent to the member/guardian. The member/guardian is responsible for meeting with the medical professional (including Physician, Physician Assistant or Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner) to complete the level of care assessment. The medical professional completes the level of care assessment and sends (via fax) to the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise Medical Services Unit. The IME Medical Services unit shall be responsible for determining the level of care based on the completed assessment tool and supporting documentation from the medical professional. The reevaluation is the same process and the same guidelines are used.

g. **Reevaluation Schedule.** Per 42 CFR §441.303(c)(4), reevaluations of the level of care required by a participant are conducted no less frequently than annually according to the following schedule *(select one)*:

- ○ **Every three months**
- ○ **Every six months**
- ◉ **Every twelve months**

○ **Other schedule**
Specify the other schedule:

h. **Qualifications of Individuals Who Perform Reevaluations.** Specify the qualifications of individuals who perform reevaluations *(select one)*:

◉ **The qualifications of individuals who perform reevaluations are the same as individuals who perform initial evaluations.**

○ **The qualifications are different.**
Specify the qualifications:

i. **Procedures to Ensure Timely Reevaluations.** Per 42 CFR §441.303(c)(4), specify the procedures that the State employs to ensure timely reevaluations of level of care *(specify)*:

The reevaluations are tracked in the Iowa Department of Human Services Individualized Services Information System (ISIS). A reminder is sent out to the person responsible for the evaluation 60 days before the reevaluation is due. A continued stay review report is available through ISIS to track reevaluations are overdue is monitored by Medical Services and the Bureau of Long Term Care with the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise.

j. **Maintenance of Evaluation/Reevaluation Records.** Per 42 CFR §441.303(c)(3), the State assures that written and/or electronically retrievable documentation of all evaluations and reevaluations are maintained for a minimum period of 3 years as required in 45 CFR §92.42. Specify the location(s) where records of evaluations and reevaluations of level of care are maintained:

All level of care documents are faxed into the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise and placed in OnBase. OnBase is the system that stores documents electronically and establishes workflow.

Appendix B: Evaluation/Reevaluation of Level of Care

Quality Improvement: Level of Care

As a distinct component of the State's quality improvement strategy, provide information in the following fields to detail the State's methods for discovery and remediation.

a. **Methods for Discovery: Level of Care Assurance/Sub-assurances**

The state demonstrates that it implements the processes and instrument(s) specified in its approved waiver for evaluating/reevaluating an applicant's/waiver participant's level of care consistent with level of care provided in a hospital, NF or ICF/IID.

i. **Sub-Assurances:**

a. ***Sub-assurance: An evaluation for LOC is provided to all applicants for whom there is reasonable indication that services may be needed in the future.***

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
LC-1a: Number and percent of members that have a valid level of care assessment completed prior to receipt of waiver services. Numerator: # of valid level of care

assessments made prior to receipt of waiver services Denominator: # of level of care assessments.

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If 'Other' is selected, specify:
The data informing this performance measures is ISIS data Reports are pulled and data is inductively analyzed at a 100% level Conclusions are made based on the data that is pulled.

Responsible Party for data collection/generation *(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data collection/generation** *(check each that applies):*	**Sampling Approach** *(check each that applies):*
☑ **State Medicaid Agency**	☐ **Weekly**	☑ **100% Review**
☐ **Operating Agency**	☐ **Monthly**	☐ **Less than 100% Review**
☐ **Sub-State Entity**	☑ **Quarterly**	☐ **Representative Sample** Confidence Interval =
☐ **Other** Specify:	☐ **Annually**	☐ **Stratified** Describe Group:
	☐ **Continuously and Ongoing**	☐ **Other** Specify:
	☐ **Other** Specify:	

Data Aggregation and Analysis:

Responsible Party for data aggregation and analysis *(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data aggregation and analysis***(check each that applies):*
☑ **State Medicaid Agency**	☐ **Weekly**
☐ **Operating Agency**	☐ **Monthly**
☐ **Sub-State Entity**	☑ **Quarterly**
☐ **Other**	☐ **Annually**

Responsible Party for data aggregation and analysis *(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data aggregation and analysis***(check each that applies):*
Specify:	
	☐ **Continuously and Ongoing**
	☐ **Other** Specify:

b. ***Sub-assurance: The levels of care of enrolled participants are reevaluated at least annually or as specified in the approved waiver.***

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
LC-1b: Number and percent of level of care determination completed within 12 months of their initial evaluation or last annual evaluation. Numerator: # of level of care assessments made within 12 months of previous assessment Denominator: # of level of care re-assessments due

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If 'Other' is selected, specify:
The data informing this performance measures is ISIS data Reports are pulled and data is inductively analyzed at 100% level Conclusions are made based on the data that is pulled.

Responsible Party for data collection/generation *(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data collection/generation** *(check each that applies):*	**Sampling Approach** *(check each that applies):*
☑ **State Medicaid Agency**	☐ **Weekly**	☑ **100% Review**
☐ **Operating Agency**	☐ **Monthly**	☐ **Less than 100% Review**
☐ **Sub-State Entity**	☑ **Quarterly**	☐ **Representative Sample** Confidence Interval =
☐ **Other**	☐ **Annually**	

Specify:		☐ **Stratified** Describe Group:
	☐ **Continuously and Ongoing**	☐ **Other** Specify:
	☐ **Other** Specify:	

Data Aggregation and Analysis:

Responsible Party for data aggregation and analysis *(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data aggregation and analysis***(check each that applies):*
☑ **State Medicaid Agency**	☐ **Weekly**
☐ **Operating Agency**	☐ **Monthly**
☐ **Sub-State Entity**	☑ **Quarterly**
☐ **Other** Specify:	☐ **Annually**
	☐ **Continuously and Ongoing**
	☐ **Other** Specify:

c. ***Sub-assurance: The processes and instruments described in the approved waiver are applied appropriately and according to the approved description to determine participant level of care.***

Performance Measures

For each performance measure the State will use to assess compliance with the statutory assurance (or sub-assurance), complete the following. Where possible, include numerator/denominator.

For each performance measure, provide information on the aggregated data that will enable the State to analyze and assess progress toward the performance measure. In this section provide information on the method by which each source of data is analyzed statistically/deductively or inductively, how themes are identified or conclusions drawn, and how recommendations are formulated, where appropriate.

Performance Measure:
LC-1c: Number and percent of initial level of care determinations made for which criteria were accurately and appropriately applied for the determination.

Numerator: # of accurate initial level of care determinations Denominator: # of initial level of care determinations.

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If 'Other' is selected, specify:
The Medical Services Unit performs internal quality reviews on the level of care determinations that have been made. Data is reported on a quarterly basis and conclusions reached inductively.

Responsible Party for data collection/generation *(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data collection/generation** *(check each that applies):*	**Sampling Approach** *(check each that applies):*
☐ **State Medicaid Agency**	☐ **Weekly**	☐ **100% Review**
☐ **Operating Agency**	☐ **Monthly**	☑ **Less than 100% Review**
☐ **Sub-State Entity**	☑ **Quarterly**	☑ **Representative Sample** Confidence Interval = 5%
☑ **Other** Specify: Contracted entity	☐ **Annually**	☐ **Stratified** Describe Group:
	☐ **Continuously and Ongoing**	☐ **Other** Specify:
	☐ **Other** Specify:	

Data Aggregation and Analysis:

Responsible Party for data aggregation and analysis *(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data aggregation and analysis***(check each that applies):*
☑ **State Medicaid Agency**	☐ **Weekly**
☑ **Operating Agency**	☐ **Monthly**
☐ **Sub-State Entity**	☑ **Quarterly**
☐ **Other** Specify:	☐ **Annually**

Responsible Party for data aggregation and analysis *(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data aggregation and analysis***(check each that applies):*
	☐ **Continuously and Ongoing**
	☐ **Other** Specify:

Performance Measure:
LC-2c: Number and percent of reevaluation of level of care determinations for which criteria were accurately and appropriately applied for the determination.
Numerator = # of accurate level of care determinations at reevaluation
Denominator = # of level of care determinations at reevaluation

Data Source (Select one):
Other
If 'Other' is selected, specify:
The Medical Services Unit performs internal quality reviews on the level of care determinations that have been made. Data is reported on a quarterly basis and conclusions reached inductively.

Responsible Party for data	**Frequency of data collection/generation** *(check each that applies):*	**Sampling Approach** *(check each that applies):*

collection/generation *(check each that applies):*		
☐ State Medicaid Agency	☐ Weekly	☐ 100% Review
☐ Operating Agency	☐ Monthly	☑ Less than 100% Review
☐ Sub-State Entity	☑ Quarterly	☑ Representative Sample Confidence Interval = 5%
☑ Other Specify: Contracted entity	☐ Annually	☐ Stratified Describe Group:
	☐ Continuously and Ongoing	☐ Other Specify:
	☐ Other Specify:	

Data Aggregation and Analysis:

Responsible Party for data aggregation and analysis *(check each that applies):*	Frequency of data aggregation and analysis*(check each that applies):*
☑ State Medicaid Agency	☐ Weekly
☑ Operating Agency	☐ Monthly
☐ Sub-State Entity	☑ Quarterly
☐ Other Specify:	☐ Annually
	☑ Continuously and Ongoing
	☐ Other Specify:

ii. If applicable, in the textbox below provide any necessary additional information on the strategies employed by the State to discover/identify problems/issues within the waiver program, including frequency and parties responsible.
Data is collected quarterly through reports generated on ISIS data. Data is inductively analyzed at a 100% level. This data is monitored for trends in procedural standards from an individual and systems perspective.

b. Methods for Remediation/Fixing Individual Problems

i. Describe the State's method for addressing individual problems as they are discovered. Include information regarding responsible parties and GENERAL methods for problem correction. In addition, provide information on the methods used by the State to document these items.
The state's Individualized Services Information System (ISIS) is programmed to provide warnings when service plans are attempted to be entered prior to an initial or annual level of care determination. The programming was also intended to prevent service plans from being developed prior to the level of care determinations but it has been identified that there is a cushion of time (60 days) in which the case manager may enter in service plan revisions/extensions beyond the level of care due date. Action is being taken to investigate and remediate this issue.
The state's Medical Services Unit performs internal quality reviews of initial and annual level of care determinations to ensure that the proper criteria are applied. In instances when it is discovered that this has not occurred the unit recommends that the service worker take steps to initiate a new level of care determination through communication with the member and physician.

General methods for problem correction at a systemic level include informational letters, provider trainings, collaboration with stakeholders and changes in policy.

ii. **Remediation Data Aggregation**
Remediation-related Data Aggregation and Analysis (including trend identification)

Responsible Party*(check each that applies):*	**Frequency of data aggregation and analysis** *(check each that applies):*
☑ **State Medicaid Agency**	☐ **Weekly**
☐ **Operating Agency**	☐ **Monthly**
☐ **Sub-State Entity**	☑ **Quarterly**
☑ **Other** Specify: Contracted Entity	☐ **Annually**
	☐ **Continuously and Ongoing**
	☐ **Other** Specify:

c. Timelines
When the State does not have all elements of the Quality Improvement Strategy in place, provide timelines to design methods for discovery and remediation related to the assurance of Level of Care that are currently non-operational.

◉ **No**

○ **Yes**
Please provide a detailed strategy for assuring Level of Care, the specific timeline for implementing identified strategies, and the parties responsible for its operation.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-7: Freedom of Choice

Freedom of Choice. *As provided in 42 CFR §441.302(d), when an individual is determined to be likely to require a level of care for this waiver, the individual or his or her legal representative is:*

i. informed of any feasible alternatives under the waiver; and
ii. given the choice of either institutional or home and community-based services.

a. **Procedures.** Specify the State's procedures for informing eligible individuals (or their legal representatives) of the feasible alternatives available under the waiver and allowing these individuals to choose either institutional or waiver services. Identify the form(s) that are employed to document freedom of choice. The form or forms are available to CMS upon request through the Medicaid agency or the operating agency (if applicable).

   During the enrollment process, a required milestone in ISIS is affirmation that the choice between HCBS and institutional services has been offered to the member. This milestone is to be completed by the DHS Income Maintenance worker. If the choice is HCBS services, the member and/or representative will complete Part A Verification of HCBS Consumer Choice, on the Home and Community Based Services Assessment or Reassessment form.

b. **Maintenance of Forms.** Per 45 CFR §92.42, written copies or electronically retrievable facsimiles of Freedom of Choice forms are maintained for a minimum of three years. Specify the locations where copies of these forms are maintained.

   Freedom of Choice forms are maintained at the local Department of Human Services Income Maintenance Worker offices and at the IME.

Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility

B-8: Access to Services by Limited English Proficiency Persons

Access to Services by Limited English Proficient Persons. Specify the methods that the State uses to provide meaningful access to the waiver by Limited English Proficient persons in accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services "Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons" (68 FR 47311 - August 8, 2003):
Iowa Department of Human Services adopts the policy as set forth in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act prohibiting national origin discrimination as it affects people with limited English proficiency. The Department shall provide for communication with people with limited English proficiency, including current and prospective patients or clients, family members and members to ensure them an equal opportunity to benefit from services. The Department has developed policies and procedures to ensure meaningful access for people with limited English proficiency. This includes procedures to:
• Identify the points of contact where language assistance is needed.
• Identify translation and interpretation resources, including their location and their availability
• Arrange to have these resources available in timely manner.
• Determine the written materials and vital documents to be translated, based on the populations with limited English proficiency and ensure their transition.
• Determining effective means for notifying people with limited English proficiency of available translation services available at no cost.
• Training department staff on limited English proficiency requirements and ensure their ability to carry them out, and
• Monitoring the application of these policies on at least an annual basis to ensure ongoing meaningful access to services.
All applications and informational handouts are printed in Spanish. In addition, the contract with IME Member Services requires that a bilingual staff person be available to answer all telephone calls, emails and written inquires. They also work with interrupters if another spoken language is needed. All local Department of Human Services offices have access to a translator if a bilingual staff person is not available. The Department includes this policy as part of their Policy on Nondiscrimination that can be found the Iowa Department of Human Services Title 1 General Departmental Procedures in the Department Employee Manual.