

## Comparison Chart - Between Children's Choice and The New Opportunities Waiver (NOW)

Issue	NOW	Children's Choice
<i>Eligibility, General Provisions</i>		
<b>Age</b>	Minimum of 3 years of age.	Birth through age 18; at 19 will transition into an available, appropriate waiver.
<b>Disability</b>	SSI definition of disability.	Same
<b>Level of Care</b>	Qualifies medically for ICF/DD institutional level of care (meets state definition of developmental disability).	Same
<b>Income/ Resources</b>	Income < 3X SSI amount; Parents income counted for first month only; Resources < \$2,000 for individuals.	Same
<b>Other</b>	U.S. citizen or authorized alien, resident of Louisiana, has S.S. #.	Same
<b>How to Apply</b>	Contact your local Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) or Human Services Authorities/Districts.	Same
<b>Medicaid Services</b>	Medically appropriate services covered under the Medicaid State Plan, including EPSDT services for recipients under age 21. Some limits apply for adults.	All medically appropriate services covered under the Medicaid State Plan.
<b>Service Limits</b>	Services as approved on the Plan of Care (POC) based on participant need and within applicable policy limits. Some services have service limits or dollar maximums.	Services as approved on the Plan of Care subject to the waiver cap per POC year.
<i>Waiver Services</i>		
<b>Caregiver Assistance</b>	Individual and Family Support Services	Waiver Family Support; Plus, EPSDT Personal Care Services.
<b>Skilled Nursing</b>	Provided as an extended state plan waiver service. NOW participants under the age of 21 must access this service through the Medicaid State Plan's EPSDT Extended Home Health service. Those age 21 and above should exhaust all 50 home visits allowed by Medicaid Home Health State Plan service before accessing waiver services.	Not provided for in the Children's Choice Waiver. Children can access through Medicaid State Plan EPSDT Extended Home Health.
<b>Center-Based Respite</b>	Provides out-of-home temporary supports and services for relief of those persons normally providing care to individuals unable to care for themselves. Limited to 720 hours per participant, per plan of care year.	Same, (except for the 720 hours per year), must be within waiver cap.

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<b>Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies</b>	Adaptive aides which enable individuals to increase their abilities to perform tasks of daily living (3 year dormancy period between \$1000 caps). This is an extended Medicaid State Plan service therefore denials of Medicaid State Plan must be obtained before accessing this service.	Not provided for in the Children's Choice Waiver. Adaptive aides may be available for children under the Medicaid EPSDT services.
<b>Environment Accessibility Adaptations</b>	Adaptations to home or vehicle to make it more accessible (3 year dormancy period between \$7000 caps).	Same, no limit other than waiver cap.
<b>Case Management (Support Coordination)</b>	Not a waiver service. Required to assist with planning and accessing services. Provided as a Medicaid State Plan service.	Required waiver service provided within waiver cap to assist with planning and accessing services.
<b>Family Training</b>	Not provided.	Training and education for families to help understand and meet the needs of their child.
<b>Crisis Support</b>	In the event of a crisis, the Plan of Care could be amended to add Individual and Family Support or Center Based Respite. Extended Home Health services for participants under the age of 21 or Skilled Nursing through Home Health for participants 21 years of age and older may be accessed in accordance with Medicaid requirements.	In the event of a crisis, and after meeting crisis criteria, the plan of care would be amended to add necessary EPSDT Personal Care Services, Extended Home Health and/or Crisis Support (outside of the waiver cap dollar amount) to meet the health and welfare needs of the child.
<b>Professional Services</b>	Professional Services: Psychology, Social Work and Nutritional/Dietary services. Children should access through the Medicaid State Plan and all should have a denial of Medicaid State Plan services prior to accessing waiver service.	Not provided for in the Children's Choice Waiver. (Available through Medicaid State Plan EPSDT services.)
<b>Other Services</b>	Day Habilitation Personal Emergency Response Supervised Independent Living Supported Employment Substitute Family Care Employment Related Training Community Integration Development One-Time Transitional Expenses (for Individuals transitioning from an ICF/DD)	Not provided for in the Children's Choice Waiver.