



## Low Intensity Support Services Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) FY 18

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### 1. What are Low Intensity Support Services (LISS)?

The Low Intensity Support Services program (LISS) supports children and adults with developmental disabilities (DD) and their families to live happy, healthy, independent lives, fully integrated in their communities.

#### LISS...

- Serves children or adults with DD living at home with their family, or adults with DD living in their own home in the community.
- Is flexible to meet the needs of children, adults with DD and their families as they grow and change across the lifespan.
- Provides up to \$2,000 to assist children, adults with DD and their families with purchasing services and /or items to address their needs.
- Enhances or improves the individual's or family's quality of life and promotes independence and community integration.

### 2. Why are some features of LISS different than in the past?

In an effort to reach as many individuals and families as possible, DDA worked with stakeholders to:

- Simplify the application process;
- Increase equality ( ensure equal opportunity for all applicants); and
- Increase the number of individuals served.

### 3. Who can apply?

Maryland residents with an eligible developmental disability may apply.

### 4. What is meant by eligible developmental disability?

An individual (child or adult) living in the family home or in their own home, has an eligible disability if it is due to a physical or intellectual disability, or is a combination of a physical and intellectual disability, and is likely to continue indefinitely.

Note: An individual with a mental health diagnosis only and not a developmental disability diagnosis, does not have an eligible developmental disability and is not eligible for LISS. For

*example; if a person is diagnosed with depression only, and doesn't have an intellectual or physical disability as well, the person does not have an eligible disability.*

**5. Are applicants on the DDA waiting list eligible to apply for LISS?**

Yes, applicants on the DDA Waiting List who are not receiving any services from DDA, except for Coordination of Community Services, are eligible to apply.

**6. Are applicants receiving DDA services such as individual, family, vocational and residential etc, except Coordination of Community Services (CCS), eligible to apply for LISS?**

No, they are not eligible to apply.

**7. Are applicants enrolled in either the MD Model Waiver, or Rare and Expensive Case Management (REM) eligible to apply for LISS?**

Yes, they are eligible to apply.

**8. Are applicants enrolled in any MD Medicaid Home & Community Base Waivers such as the DDA's Community Pathways Waiver, or the Older Adult and Autism Waivers eligible to apply for LISS?**

No, they are not eligible to apply.

**9. How do I apply for LISS?**

Individuals, family members or authorized representatives such as social workers, or a coordinator of community supports may complete and submit a LISS Random Selection Application, on behalf of the applicant, to the LISS provider that serves the county in which the applicants live.

Applications can be downloaded from the DDA / LISS website at <http://dda.dhmfh.maryland.gov/SitePages/liss.aspx>

If you are not able to access online information or download an application, please call your local LISS provider to request information and an application.

**NOTE: Applications must be mailed or hand delivered to the applicant's LISS provider.**

**FAXED AND EMAILED APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED AND CONSIDERED FOR FUNDING.**

**10. \* When do I apply?**

LISS Random Selection Applications can be submitted to LISS providers beginning May 1, 2017 through October 31, 2017.

- Applications received by June 30, 2017 are eligible for Round 1 of the Random Selection Process (RSP).
- Applications received by October 31, 2017 are eligible for Round 2 of the RSP.

**11. Where can I get help?**

Please contact your LISS provider if you have any questions or concerns. They are happy to provide you with support, information and assistance in completing the application process!

**12. LISS Providers *(The applicant's LISS provider is the one that serves his/her County)***

**Maryland Community Connection:** 4401 Nicole Drive Lanham, Maryland 20706

Phone: (301) 583-8880 / Toll free: 1-877-622-6688

Fax: (301) 583-0359

E-mail: [LISS@marylandcommunityconnection.org](mailto:LISS@marylandcommunityconnection.org)

Website: <http://www.marylandcommunityconnection.org/low-intensity-support-services-liiss/>

Serves: Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's, and St. Mary's counties

**Penn Mar Human Services:** 310 Old Freeland Road Freeland, Maryland 21053

Phone: (410) 343 -0891 / Toll Free: 1-877-282-8202 / TTY: 711

FAX: (410)357-4767

E-mail: [LISS@penn-mar.org](mailto:LISS@penn-mar.org)

Website: <http://www.penn-mar.org/liiss/>

Serves: Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Harford, Howard and Washington counties

**United Needs and Abilities:** 688 East Main Street Salisbury, Maryland 21804

Phone: (410) 543-0665 / Toll Free:1-800-776-5694

TTY: (410)543-0665

FAX: (410)543-0432

E-mail: [LISS@una1.org](mailto:LISS@una1.org)

Website: <http://www.una1.org/developmental-disabilities/financial-assistance#sthash.yhADRTHw.dpbs>

Serves: Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester counties

**13. Does everyone who applies receive funding?**

No. Unfortunately, funding is limited. Only applicants chosen/selected through the Random Selection Process may be eligible for LISS funding!

**14. What is the Random Selection Process?**

To promote equality and access for everyone the DDA uses an automated system called the Random Selection Process (RSP) to select applicants who may be eligible for funding from applications submitted to LISS providers between May 1, 2017 and October 31, 2017.

- The RSP takes place twice each year. Round 1 in July. Round 2 in November.
- LISS providers notify applicants of their status (selected or not) by mail.
- In addition to notification of their status, "selected" applicants are provided with the LISS Program Services & Eligibility Guide and Form.
- Applicants indicate the services and items they are requesting on the LISS Program Services & Eligibility Form.
- Applicants submit completed applications along with proof of eligibility and residency and other required documentation to their LISS provider by the specified date (as indicated in the status notification letter) to complete the application process.
- Upon review and approval, LISS providers will process paperwork and payments.

**15. Can applicants receive funding in both Round 1 and Round 2?**

No. Applicants who received funding in Round 1 may not receive funding in Round 2 of the same fiscal year even if the maximum amount of \$2000 was not awarded to the applicant in Round 1.

**16. Does LISS fund/reimburse previously received items and services?**

Yes, services and items received in the current fiscal year (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018) may be eligible for reimbursement this year.

**17. What are some examples of items/services that may be purchased with LISS funds?**

- Assistive Technology
- Barrier Removal
- Childcare
- Employment-related services
- Housing Adaptations
- Individual and Family Counseling
- Personal Care
- Specialized equipment
- Training and support for self-advocacy
- Adaptive Equipment
- Attendant care
- Camp (youth & adult)
- Daycare
- Health services
- Identification services
- Medical equipment purchase, rental, and repair
- Respite
- Therapeutic Services
- Transportation assistance
- Tuition for post-secondary academic / vocational

**18. What are some examples of items/services that may not be purchased with LISS funds?**

Experimental treatments or treatments not approved by the FDA.

Gift cards;

Housing assistance, including eviction assistance, utility disconnection and deposits

Toys, except for therapeutic purposes;

Vacations; or

Vehicle gas, tires, registration, or payment for violations such as tickets and fines.

***\*Please see the DDA website for more information about the LISS program:***

***<http://dda.dhmh.maryland.gov/SitePages/liss.aspx>***