1. What is the Low Intensity Support Service (LISS) Program?

The Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) thanks you for your interest in its Low Intensity Support Services (LISS) Program. The DDA is committed to supporting children, adults with developmental disabilities and their families. The mission of the DDA is to create a flexible, person-centered, family-oriented system of support for children and adults to have a full, happy, healthy, life and independence while being integrated into their communities across their lifespan.

The Developmental Disabilities Administration’s Low Intensity Support Services (LISS) Program serves children living at home with their family and adults with developmental disabilities living in their own home in the community, who are not receiving any support services from the DDA. Below are a few highlights:

- It is flexible to meet the needs of children as they grow and adults as they mature across their lifespan. And;
- Provides up to $2000 to assist children and adults with purchasing eligible services and/or items to address their needs. And;
- Enhances or improves a child or adult’s quality of life, promotes independence and community integration.

Using an automated system called the Random Selection, applicants are considered for LISS funding. Because funding is limited, the use of the Random Selection allows the DDA to promote equality and access for everyone. The process steps are as follows: a submission of an application, random selection, determination of applicant’s eligibility, and funding for eligible items and services.

The Applicant and Family Guide provides potential and actual applicants with the information and forms they need to complete their application. If you have any questions or need assistance in completing forms please contact the LISS provider that services the county in which you live. They are happy to assist you!

For more information on the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), please visit dda.health.maryland.gov or contact DDA’s Regional Office that services the county in which you live.
2. **Who can apply?**

Maryland residents with an eligible diagnosis may apply.

3. **What is meant by eligible diagnosis?**

The applicant has an eligible diagnosis by meeting the criteria set forth in 7-717 (a) of the Maryland Health-General Article as follows:

1. **Either:**
   a. A child or an adult who is living in the home.
   b. An adult who is living in the community.

2. **Has a severe, chronic, disability that:**
   a. Is attributable to a physical or mental impairment, other than the sole diagnosis of a mental illness, or to a combination of physical and mental impairments; And
   b. Is likely to continue indefinitely.

4. **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 (CCS), are eligible to apply.

5. **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.

6. **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.

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

No, they are not eligible to apply.

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

Individuals, family members or authorized representatives such as social workers, or a Coordinator of Community Supports (CCS) 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 [https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Pages/liss.aspx](https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Pages/liss.aspx). If you are not able to access online information or download an application, please call your local LISS provider.

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

**FAXED AND EMAILED APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED FOR LISS FUNDING.**
9. When do I apply?

Round 1: LISS Random Selection Applications are accepted from May 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019.

Round 2: LISS Random Selection Applications are accepted from July 1, 2019 through November 29, 2019.

10. 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!

11. 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  
E-mail: LISSmanager@marylandcommunityconnection.org  
Website: [http://www.marylandcommunityconnection.org/](http://www.marylandcommunityconnection.org/)  
Serves: Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George’s, St. Mary’s, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne’s, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester counties.

**Penn Mar Human Services:** 310 Old Freeland Road Freeland, Maryland 21053  
Phone: Toll Free: 1-877-282-8202 / TTY: 711; FAX: (410) 357-4767  
E-mail: LISS@penn-mar.org  
Website: [http://www.penn-mar.org/liss/](http://www.penn-mar.org/liss/)  
Serves: Allegany, Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Harford, Howard and Washington counties

12. Does everyone who applies receive funding?

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

13. What is the Random Selection Process?

The LISS Program mission is to ensure individuals and families have equality and access to short-term funding opportunities. This is achieved through the Random Selection process. The LISS program utilizes the Random Selection process, an automated system, to select LISS applicants who may be eligible for LISS funding.

- The Random Selection Process takes place twice each fiscal year. After the Random Selection is completed, LISS providers will notify LISS applicants of their application status (Selected or Not Selected) by mail or email.
- In addition to notification of their status, “Selected” applicants are provided with a LISS Program Applicant and Family Guide.
- Applicants indicate the services and items they are requesting on the Services Eligibility Application.
- Applicants submit completed applications along with proof of eligibility, 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.
14. **Can applicants receive funding in both Round 1 and Round 2?**

No. Applicants who receive 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.

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

Yes, services and items received in the current fiscal year may be eligible for reimbursement.

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

- Adaptive Equipment
- Assistive Technology
- Behavior Support Services
- Clothing
- Crisis Intervention
- Home Modification/Barrier Removal
- Individual and Family Counseling
- Therapeutic Services and Items
- Training and Support
- Tuition
- Adult Care
- Attendant care/Personal Care
- Childcare
- Community Integration-Non-Therapeutic
- Health Related Services and Items
- Identification services
- Respite
- Therapeutic Summer Programs and Camps
- Transportation

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

- Experimental treatments or treatments not approved by the FDA
- Gifts and Gift cards
- Housing assistance, including eviction assistance, utility disconnection and deposits
- Toys, except for therapeutic purposes
- Vacations
- Vehicle: gas, tires, registration, or payment for violations such as tickets and fines
- Case Management
- Presents
- Cash
- Housing adaptations or improvements to an individual’s home that adds to the home’s total square footage.
- Adaptation or modification that restrict an individual’s movement or jeopardize the individual’s welfare.

**Please note:** DDA will not pay for items from a vendor that requires a membership to purchase the items. This includes Costco, Sam’s Club and B.J. Warehouse.

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

[https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Pages/liss.aspx](https://dda.health.maryland.gov/Pages/liss.aspx)