

acronyms



Updated: 03/2025

INTRODUCTION

Developmental Pathways is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency serving individuals with disabilities/delays and their families. We are also one of Colorado's Community Centered Boards (CCB) and a Case Management Agency (CMA) connecting people to federal, state, county, and private funding in Arapahoe County, Douglas County, and Elbert County.

The disability system, as with most complex social systems, uses many acronyms. We have designed this Acronym Guide by age group with a special appendix for local, state, and federal agencies and included some definitions.

Other handy tools for related system acronyms include:

1. This searchable list is on the [Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing \(HCPF\) website](#), which oversees Colorado Medicaid (also known as Health First Colorado).
2. THINK+change's Acronym Quick Reference Guide on the disability system <https://thinkchange.training/acronym-quick-reference-guide/>

[Suggest additional Acronyms to be added to the guide](#)

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

1. **Opening the Navigation Pane**
 - a. If the navigation pane is not showing:
 - b. Using the top toolbar, select "View"
 - c. Then select "Show/Hide"
 - d. Then select "Navigation Guide"
2. **Using the Table of Contents (or TOC):**
 - a. Find the acronym you are looking for and use **CTRL + ENTER** or **CTRL + CLICK** to navigate directly to the definition.
 - b. To return to the main TOC, use the navigation pane on the left.
3. **Using the Complete List:**
 - a. Scroll down through the pages to find the acronym(s) you need; they are in alphabetical order.
4. **Using the search feature in the Navigation Window:**
 - a. Type the acronym or part of the assumed definition into the "search document" box and hit enter
5. **Using the "Find" function in the Document**
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Acronym	Definition
AAA	Area Agency on Aging
AAC	Augmentative and Alternative Communication: Communication devices, systems, strategies, and tools that replace or support spoken language are known as augmentative and alternative communication (AAC). These tools support a person who has difficulties communicating using speech.
ACF	Alternative Care Facility: An ACF provides assistive living services so a person can stay in the community. These residences are licensed and certified and offer elders and persons with disabilities health services in a community setting.
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act: https://www.ada.gov/
ADHD	Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
ADL	Activities of Daily Living
ADRC	Aging and Disability Resources Center: In Colorado, DRCOG (Denver Regional Council of Governments) is the Aging and Disability Resource Center. https://drcog.org/programs/area-agency-aging/aging-and-disability-resource-center
ALR	Assisted Living Residences
AMHR	Aurora Mental Health & Recovery: https://www.auroramhr.org/
APS	Aurora Public Schools
APS	Adult Protective Services: https://cdhs.colorado.gov/aps
AR	Authorized Representative: Participants using the In-Home Support Services delivery option and Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services can designate an Authorized Representative to assist with tasks that are necessary to help provide support for daily task. For individuals with an intellectual/developmental disability, an Authorized Representative is an individual designated by the person receiving services or by the parent or guardian of the person receiving services, if appropriate, to assist the person receiving services in acquiring or utilizing services and supports.

Acronym	Definition
ASAA	<p>As Soon as Available: Typically used when referring to the DD waitlist and one of the official statuses for HCBS programming with waitlists.</p> <p>ASAA indicates the individual has requested enrollment as soon as available/ immediately upon availability of support.</p>
ASD No. 300	Agate School District No. 300
ASD	Autism Spectrum Disorders
ASMP	<p>Attendant Support Management Plan: The ASMP outlines the services and allocation approved by a case manager for an individual's attendant support and is needed as part of enrollment onto the CDASS program.</p>
ASQ	<p>Ages and Stages Questionnaire: A tool used to provide “reliable, accurate developmental and social emotional screening for children birth to age 6.</p> <p>https://agesandstages.com/</p>
AT	<p>Assistive Technology: Include services, supports or devices that help to increase, maintain, or improve ability to perform daily tasks. Services do not include ongoing subscription services.</p>
ATD	Assistive Technology Device
BH	Behavioral Health: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/behavioral-health-services
BHA	Behavioral Health Administration: https://bha.colorado.gov/
BHASOs	<p>Behavioral Health Administrative Service Organizations: When implemented in July of 2025, BHASOs will establish, administer, and maintain regional networks of behavioral health care providers that serve people across Colorado. The goal is for BHASOs to facilitate accessible, affordable, and easy-to-navigate behavioral health services to help people in Colorado achieve whole-person health. BHASOs will also identify care gaps and promote access to services through a network of providers by collaborating with local community organizations.</p>
BHO	<p>Behavioral Health Organization: A single- or multiple-county authority or other entity operating as a pre-paid health plan with which the Medicaid agency or the agency's designee contracts for the delivery of community outpatient and inpatient mental health and substance use disorder services in a defined geographic area.</p>
BI Waiver	<p>Brain Injury Waiver: Provides home or community-based alternative to hospital or specialized nursing facility care for persons with brain injury. Supports ages 16 and older.</p>

Acronym	Definition
BOCES	Boards of Cooperative Educational Services: BOCES exist to supply educational services to two or more school districts that alone cannot afford the service or find it advantageous and cost-effective to cooperate with other districts.
BOD	Board of Directors: To find more out about DP's BOD, please visit: https://www.dpcolo.org/about-us/board-of-directors/
BSS	Big Sandy Schools 100J
CAPS	Colorado Adult Protective Services: https://cdhs.colorado.gov/aps
CAPTA	Child Abuse Prevention Treatment Act: Enacted in 1974, CAPTA provides Federal funding and guidance to States in support of prevention, assessment, investigation, prosecution, and treatment activities and also provides grants to public agencies and nonprofit organizations, including Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations, for demonstration programs and projects.
CBLTC	Community-Based Long-Term Care
CBMS	Colorado Benefits Management System: The Colorado Benefits Management System (CBMS) is Colorado's statewide database system through which eligibility is determined for medical, food, cash, and other assistance programs.
CCCAP	Colorado Child Care Assistance Program: Find more information here: https://cdec.colorado.gov/for-families/colorado-child-care-assistance-program-for-families
CCB	Community Centered Board: A private for-profit or not-for-profit organization that is designated as an administrator of locally generated funding pursuant to CRS 25.510-206(6) and acts as a resource for persons with an intellectual and developmental disability or a child with a developmental delay. CCBs are currently responsible for managing the Early Intervention program in their designated area. For a full list by county, please visit https://hcpf.colorado.gov/case-management-agency-directory
CCDC	Colorado Cross-Disability Coalition: https://ccdconline.org
CCM System	Care and Case Management System: The Care and Case Management System is a new HCPF run database launched July 2023 replacing the Benefits Utilization System (BUS) and CCMS/DDDWeb. This database is intended to eliminate the duplication of work in both systems and create efficiencies for case management and the individuals served. It is the primary system for case management documentation including needs assessment, log notes, and service planning.

Acronym	Definition
CCR	Colorado Code of Regulations: The official Colorado rules and regulations for Colorado's state agencies and related work: https://www.sos.state.co.us/CCR/Welcome.do
CCSD	Cherry Creek School District
CDAC	Children's Disability Advisory Committee: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/childrens-disability-advisory-committee
CDASS	Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services: A service delivery option under certain home and community based (HCBS) waivers allowing individuals to direct and manage the attendants who provide personal care, homemaker, and health maintenance services, rather than working through an agency.
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: https://www.cdc.gov/
CDCO	Consumer Direct of Colorado: Supports training services that enable successful self-directed in-home attendant services. https://consumerdirectco.com/
CDE	Colorado Department of Education: https://www.cde.state.co.us/
CDEC	Colorado Department of Early Childhood: https://cdec.colorado.gov/
CDH	Colorado Department of Health
CDHS	Colorado Department of Human Services: https://cdhs.colorado.gov/
CDLE	Colorado Department of Labor and Employment: https://cdle.colorado.gov/
CDPHE	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment: https://cdphe.colorado.gov/
CE	Community Engagement: A department of Developmental Pathways overseeing local programming including community training and outreach and locally funded supports.
CES Waiver	Children's Extensive Support Waiver: Provides Health First Colorado benefits (Medicaid benefits) and home or community-based services for children with developmental disabilities or delays that are most in need due to the severity of their disability. Children must meet additional targeted criteria. Supports ages birth through age 17.

Acronym	Definition
CF	Child Find: Child Find for children ages 3 through 5 years old is part of Colorado's system for identifying children suspected of having a delay in development as early as possible.
CFC	Community First Choice Option: Community First Choice, also known as 1915(k), allows states to offer Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) attendant care services on a state-wide basis to eligible members. Through CFC, members would have the option to direct their attendant care services or to receive services through an agency.
CFCM	Conflict-free Case Management: CFCM prohibits the delivery of Case Management Support and Home and Community Based Direct Services by the same agency or entity in the long-term care system.
CHCBS Waiver	Children's HCBS Waiver: Provides Health First Colorado benefits (Medicaid and waiver benefits) in the home or community for disabled children who would otherwise be ineligible for Health First Colorado due to excess parental income and/or resources. Children must be at risk of a nursing facility or hospital placement. Supports ages birth through age 17.
CHFA	Colorado Housing & Finance Authority: CHFA strengthens Colorado by investing in affordable housing and community development. Offering financial resources to strengthen homeownership, affordable rental housing, and businesses.
CHP	Child Health Plan: Most often used to refer to CHIP or CHP+, which provides health coverage to eligible children, through both Medicaid and separate CHIP programs. CHIP is administered by states, according to federal requirements. The program is funded jointly by state and the federal government.
CHP+	Children's Health Plan Plus: Sometimes referred to as CHIP. Provides comprehensive health insurance for uninsured children up to age 19. CHP+ is for children who are not eligible for Medicaid due to their income or immigration status.
CHRP Waiver	Children's Habilitation Residential Program Waiver: Provides Health First Colorado benefits (Medicaid and Waiver benefits) in the home or community for children and youth with an intellectual or developmental disability and extraordinary needs. Children must be at risk for institutionalization. Supports ages birth through age 20.
CI	Critical Incident: An actual or alleged event that creates the risk of serious harm to the health or welfare of a client receiving Health First Colorado benefits. A critical incident may endanger or negatively impact the mental and/or physical well-being of a client.

Acronym	Definition
CICC	Colorado Interagency Coordinating Council: https://www.coloradoofficeofearlychildhood.com/OEC_Resources?p=Resources&s=Boards-Commissions-Committees&lang=en
CIE	Competitive Integrated Employment: CIE is work that is paid at or above minimum wage, pays a comparable wage to other employees doing similar work regardless of disability status, offers the same level of benefits of those without disabilities, is in a setting where those with and without disabilities are integrated and provides opportunities for advancement similar to other employees without a disability.
CIH Waiver	Complementary and Integrative Health Waiver: Provides home or community-based services for people with a spinal cord injury, multiple sclerosis, a brain injury, spina bifida, muscular dystrophy, or cerebral palsy with the inability for independence. Supports ages 18 years and older.
CIR	Critical Incident Report: When a critical incident occurs involving an HCBS waiver participant, a report must be made to the case manager of the case management agency that is coordinating the care for the waiver participant. The case manager must report the critical incident within one business day of notification of the incident. The critical incident will be entered into the Care and Case Management System (CCM). Critical incidents can be reported to the case manager by home health agencies, caregivers, law enforcement, participants, and their family.
CLLI Waiver	Children with a Life Limiting Illness Waiver: Provides Health First Colorado benefits (Medicaid and Waiver benefits) in the home for children with a life-limiting illness to allow the family to seek curative treatment while the child is receiving palliative or hospice care. Supports ages birth through age 18.
CM	Can refer to Case Management services for individuals enrolled in the Home and Community Based Services Medicaid Waivers. Case Management includes four main functions: 1) assessment of needs, 2) support planning, 3) referral activities, and 4) monitoring and evaluation of services effectiveness. Can also refer to a Case Manager , sometimes known as a service coordinator or resource coordinator, which means a person who provides case management services and meets all regulatory requirements for case managers.
CMA	Case Management Agency: A public or private not-for-profit or for-profit agency that meets all applicable state and federal requirements and is certified by HCPF to provide case management services for Home and Community-Based Services waivers. For a full list by county, please visit https://hcpf.colorado.gov/case-management-agency-directory

Acronym	Definition
CMHC	Community Mental Health Centers: https://bha.colorado.gov/community-mental-health-centers
CMHI	Colorado Mental Health Institute
CMHS Waiver	Community Mental Health Supports Waiver: Provides home or community-based alternative to nursing facility care for persons with major mental illness. Supports ages 18 years and older.
CMS	Case Management Specialist: A person who supports case management work.
CMS	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services: Federal agency authorizing and overseeing Medicaid Services, including state Medicaid Waivers: https://www.cms.gov/
CMRD	Case Management Redesign: CMRD refers to several initiatives that will help make accessing long-term services and supports easier by changing case management agencies to serve all HCBS [Home and Community Based] waivers, so people can access the services they need in a single place. https://www.community.dpcolo.org/case-management-redesign
CNA	Certified Nurse's Assistant: A CNA is an entry-level role that provides nursing care and support to patients under the supervision of a licensed nurse. This is typically funded through insurance or Medicaid State Plan benefits.
CO WL	Community Outreach Waitlist Services Program: Sometimes referred to as COWL. A locally funded program specific to Developmental Pathways providing referral and resource support for individuals and families who do not do not yet qualify for state or waiver-funded programming and are currently waitlisted.
COR	Child Observation Record: An assessment tool that teachers and other observers use to observe, record, and score young children's development.
COTA	Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant
CPS	Child Protective Services: For support with child welfare, visit: https://cdhs.colorado.gov/our-services/child-and-family-services/child-welfare
CRS	Colorado Revised Statutes: The official set of statutes (laws) for the state of Colorado: https://leg.colorado.gov/agencies/office-legislative-legal-services/colorado-revised-statutes

Acronym	Definition
CSA	Colorado Single Assessment: This is a new comprehensive level of care and needs assessment to be implemented by HCPF in the future that will be documented in the Care and Case Management system alongside the PCSP (Person-Centered Support Plan).
CwCHN	Children with Complex Health Needs Waiver
DCR	Designated Client Representative: A Client Representative may be: (A) a legal representative including, but not limited to a court-appointed guardian, a parent of a minor child, or a spouse; or (B) an individual, family member or friend selected by the Client to speak for or act on the Client's behalf.
DCSD	Douglas County School District
DCW	Direct Care Worker or Direct Care Workforce
DCWS	Division of Child Welfare Services https://cdhs.colorado.gov/child-welfare
DD	A term that can refer to Developmental Delays, Developmental Disabilities, and/or Intellectual and Development Disabilities (I/DD) depending on the context and age group referenced.
DD Waiver	Developmental Disabilities Waiver: A Medicaid waiver for adults with developmental disabilities requiring 24-hour supervision and support. It includes residential services to support individuals to live safely and participate in the community. Supports ages 18 years and older. Sometimes referred to as “Residential” or “Comprehensive” services in the context of I/DD waivers.
Delay	Developmental Delay: For an infant or toddler (0-5) with delay in primary developmental areas; often used interchangeably with ID and I/DD though has specific eligibility criteria.
DHSS	Day Habilitation Services and Supports: Also known as Day Program or Day Habilitation. Services offered to adults enrolled in one of the adult HCBS Waiver programs during the day and outside of the person’s residential setting. Activities should promote independence in the community or build on skills related to socialization, self- help, or adaptive skills.
DHS	The Colorado Department of Human Services: https://cdhs.colorado.gov/
DI	Deinstitutionalization: Deinstitutionalization enrollments are for those Individuals residing in an institutional setting (Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF), Mental Health Institutions, Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with

Acronym	Definition
	Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) and Regional Centers) who are wanting to receive services in the community.
DME	Durable Medical Equipment: Durable medical equipment (DME) and disposable medical supplies are a Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) benefit that provides clients with medical equipment and/or disposable supplies when there is a medical need for the treatment or therapy of an illness or physical condition.
DOB	Date of Birth
DOC	The Colorado Department of Corrections: https://cdoc.colorado.gov/
DOE	The Colorado Department of Education: https://www.cde.state.co.us/
DOH	The Colorado Division of Housing: Receives federal funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and contracts with public housing authorities and nonprofit organizations to administer the HCV (Housing Choice Voucher) Program throughout the state of Colorado. As part of their work, the DOH completes home modification reviews. https://cdola.colorado.gov/housing
DOS	Date(s) of Service: The date(s) of service is the specific time at which an individual has received services and supports. It is recorded for billing purposes and as an item in an individual's medical record.
DP	Developmental Pathways, Inc.: A 501(c)(3) nonprofit agency serving individuals with developmental disabilities/delays and their families. DP is one of Colorado's Community Centered Boards (CCB) and a Case Management Agency (CMA) connecting people to federal, state, county, and private funding in Arapahoe County, Douglas County, and Elbert County. https://www.dpcolo.org/
DSA	Designated Service Area: The regional area that a Case Management Agency serves
DSP	Direct Service Professional
DVR	The Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation: A state agency that assists eligible individuals with disabilities to find employment in the community. https://dvr.colorado.gov/
DYC or DYS	The Colorado Division of Youth Corrections / Services: https://cdhs.colorado.gov/our-services/division-of-youth-services

Acronym	Definition
EAP	Eligibility Application Partner: Provide no-cost assistance is provided to complete Medicaid applications to include HCBS waivers and Medicare Savings Programs (MSP).
EBD Waiver	Elderly, Blind, and Disabled Waiver: The Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for persons who are Elderly, Blind, or Disabled (EBD) provides assistance to people ages 65 and older who have a functional impairment, or are blind, or to people ages 18-64 who are physically disabled or have a diagnosis of HIV or AIDS, and require long-term supports and services in order to remain in a community setting.
ECD	The Colorado Early Childhood Department , also known as CDPE or the Colorado Department of Early Childhood : https://cdec.colorado.gov/
ECSD	Elbert County School District
ECSE	Early Childhood Special Educator
ECP	Emergency Control Procedure: Means an unanticipated use of a restrictive procedure or restraint to keep the person receiving services and others safe.
ED	Emergency Department
EER	Emergency Enrollment Request: An exception to waiting list protocols in which there is an emergency-level situation where health and safety of the individual or others is endangered and emergency enrollment into HCBS-DD is the only available solution.
EFMP	Exceptional Family Member Program: The EFMP is an Air Force program whose goal is to establish, implement and maintain comprehensive support to Airmen, Guardians and their family members with special needs. To facilitate an all-inclusive approach to maintain the highest quality of life for special needs family members, by considering and accommodating assignment coordination, family support information, referral and resources, community support, medical, and special educational and legal services. https://www.afpc.af.mil/Exceptional-Family-Member-Program/
EI	Early Intervention: Program provides service coordination and additional supports for families with infants and toddlers with developmental delays. Supports ages birth through age 2.
EPS	Englewood Public Schools: Englewood Schools
EPSDT	Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment: Package of benefits that provides comprehensive and preventative health care services for Health

Acronym	Definition
	First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) members aged 20 and under along with pregnant adults; includes the medically necessary exception process for children enrolled in Medicaid. https://hcpf.colorado.gov/early-and-periodic-screening-diagnostic-and-treatment-epsdt
EVV	Electronic Visit Verification: a technology used to verify that home or community-based service visits occur. The purpose of EVV is to ensure that services are delivered to members and that providers only bill for services rendered. https://hcpf.colorado.gov/evv
FCG	Family Caregiver: Most often refers to a service delivery model outlined in the 2008 Family Caregiver Act, which was fully implemented in November 2010. The Family Caregiver Act allows a person already receiving services funded by through an HCBS Medicaid waiver, to receive those services in a place of their choice and by a person of their choice. Family Caregiver is a service option and not a program.
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act: A Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education.
FFOC	Foster Father of Child
FMOC	Foster Mother of Child
FMS	Financial Management Services: An approved vendor and provider of financial management services for those enrolled into CDASS.
FOC	Father of Child
FSC/SFSC	Family Support Coordinator/Senior Family Support Coordinator
FSIQ	Full-Scale Intelligence Quotient: Is a term coined for an individual's complete cognitive capacity. Regarding children, the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (WISC) is the most commonly used test in helping measure a child's mental capacity.
FSP	Family Support Plan: Annual plan completed by Service Coordinator with family and individual enrolled in Family Support Services Program to determine strengths and needs.
FSSP	Family Support Services Program: A state-funded program that offers support to families with a child or adult with developmental disabilities living at home. The supports are intended to assist families in finding and/or

Acronym	Definition
	funding some of the resources and services needed when parenting their child or assisting an adult family member with developmental disabilities.
FVA	Functional Vision Assessment: A functional vision assessment measures how well a child uses vision to perform routine tasks in different places and with different materials throughout the day.
FY	Fiscal Year: A specified period of time for taxing or accounting purposes. Colorado's fiscal year runs July 1 st to June 30 th as does Developmental Pathways. Fiscal Years are used in annual projections, budgeting, and reporting.
GAL	Guardian Ad Litem
GFOC	Grandfather of Child
GMOC	Grandmother of Child
GRSS	Group Residential Services and Supports: Residential services and supports in group home settings licensed for individuals enrolled in the HCBS-DD Waiver program. These settings usually have four or more individuals.
HBU	Hospital Back-Up: HBU is a program within Health First Colorado that supports skilled nursing facilities in providing hospital-level care to individuals who are: Ventilator dependent, have complex wounds, or have medically complex needs.
HCA	Home Care Allowance: Home Care Allowance (HCA) program provides cash assistance to individuals 5 years of age and older with a disability to pay a home care provider. HCA is used to pay for services to help clients remain in their homes (such as bathing, dressing, meal preparation, and shopping). Services are provided by a home care provider.
HCA	Home Care Agency
HCBS	Home & Community Based Services: Services and supports provided in community settings to an individual who requires a level of institutional care for those who meet targeting criteria, and which are funded through HCBS Medicaid Waivers.
HCP	<p>Health Care Program: A program or activity administered or funded by a state agency to provide health care services, research, education, or goods. Examples include Medicare and Medicaid.</p> <p>In the context of employment, may also refer to an organization's Health Care Plan or benefits.</p>

Acronym	Definition
HCPF	Department of Health Care Policy and Financing: Department of Colorado State government responsible for the administration of Medicaid: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/
HCV	Housing Choice Voucher: Formerly known as Section 8, this program helps low-income, elderly, and disabled individuals afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing. https://www.hud.gov/topics/housing_choice_voucher_program_section_8
Health First Colorado	The formal name for Colorado's Medicaid Program: https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/
HH	Host home: An individual residential services under the HCBS-DD waiver.
HHA	Can refer to a Home Health Aide or Home Health Agency
HHAC	The Home Care and Hospice Association of Colorado: Represents home care, hospice, palliative care, and private duty agencies: https://www.homecareofcolorado.org/
HHP	Host Home Provider: A subcontracting vendor providing residential services within their own home to no more than two individuals at a time.
HIPAA	The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act: The federal law that required the creation of national standards to protect sensitive patient health information from being disclosed without the patient's consent or knowledge.
HM	Home Modification: A Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) benefit that allows for specific modifications, adaptations, or improvements in an eligible participant's existing home setting
HMA	Health Maintenance Activities: Routine and repetitive health-related tasks furnished to the person in services in the community or in your home, which are necessary for health and normal bodily functioning that a person with a disability is unable to physically carry out. This service may include helping you with health care tasks related to care for the skin, nails, or mouth, dressing, feeding, toileting, exercise, transferring, medical management, or respiratory care.
HRC	Human Rights Committee: A committee of volunteers comprised of professionals in the community, parents, client representatives, and advocates, which reviews psychotropic medications, rights suspensions, restrictive procedures, emergency, and safety control procedures, and makes recommendations.

Acronym	Definition
HUD	Housing and Urban Development: Federal department responsible for several grant programs. https://www.hud.gov/
HV	Home Visit
I/DD	Intellectual and/or Developmental Disability: A funding or legislative term for children over age 5 & adults. Includes intellectual disability (ID) as well as other neurological and physical diagnoses.
IC	Most often used to refer to the Colorado InterChange: The official Colorado Medicaid Management Information System. The InterChange is HCPF's group of provider-facing databases that support PAR information, provider billing, Medicaid eligibility, and provider enrollment.
ICAP	Inventory for Client and Agency Planning: This assessment is given to children in CHRP to determine their support level.
ICF-IID	Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disability (ICF-IID): A residential facility that is certified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) to provide habilitative, therapeutic and specialized support services to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act: https://sites.ed.gov/idea/
IDT	Inter-Disciplinary Team: A team of individuals involved in support, assessment, and recommendations for persons with disabilities.
IEP	<p>Individualized Education Program: Every child with a disability who attends public school and receives special education and related services must have an Individualized Education Program (IEP).</p> <p>An IEP is a document uniquely designed for one specific student, with the intention of improving educational results for that child.</p>
IFSP	Individual Family Service Plan: Plan for infants and toddlers in the Early Intervention Program. It details current levels of development and outcomes/goals to be reviewed every six months.
IHSS	In-Home Support Services: Participant-directed service delivery option on the CHCBS, CIH, and EBD waivers. https://hcpf.colorado.gov/in-home-support-services
IMD	Institution for Mental Disease: Inpatient Psychiatric Hospitals
Individual/Member/Participant	All definitions for clients supported through various programs and used interchangeably depending on programmatic context.

Acronym	Definition
IP	Individualized Plan (also sometimes referred to a Service Plan): A written document developed by the individual and their interdisciplinary team that drives the programs, supports, and services delivered to the individual in the next year.
IR	Incident Report
IRSS	Individualized Residential Services and Supports: Residential services and supports in small settings of three or fewer individuals enrolled in the HCBS-DD Waiver program; this includes Personal Care Alternatives, apartment settings, and host homes.
ISSP	Individualized Service and Support Plan: A specific and written goal/program developed by a Service Agency to address prioritized needs for an individual in services related to areas such as skills acquisition, personal, physical, or social development, and/or training.
JBC	Colorado Joint Budget Committee: https://leg.colorado.gov/agencies/joint-budget-committee
LBW	Low Birth Weight
LOC	Level of Care: Colorado's Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) programs require participants to meet a specific Level of Care to be eligible for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waivers, Long Term Home Health (adults only), Program of All-Inclusive Care for The Elderly (PACE) and Nursing Facilities/Intermediate Care Facilities.
LOC	Loss of Contact
LPS	Littleton Public Schools
LRI or LRP	Legally Responsible Individual/ Legally Responsible Person: A legally responsible person in Colorado is a parent of a minor child or the client's spouse. A legally responsible person can also be a client representative, which is someone who is designated by the client to act on their behalf. This could include a court-appointed guardian, a family member, or a friend.
LTC	Long-term Care: The length of care approved through Medicaid waiver programs and for those in nursing homes, intermediate care facilities, and community-based settings.
LTHH	Long-term Home Health: Skilled services such as Certified Nursing Aide or Nursing (i.e., RN, LPM) services provided by a Home Health Agency (HHA) for individuals who need Intermittent Home Health Services.

Acronym	Definition
LTSS	Long-term Services & Supports: Encompasses the broad range of medical and personal care assistance that people may need – for several weeks, months, or years – when they experience difficulty completing self-care tasks as a result of aging, chronic illness, or disability.
MA or MAS	Medical Assistance/Medical Assistance Sites
MANE	Mistreatment, Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation: Term used when referring to types of abuse that are suspected, investigated, and/or perpetrated against at-risk individuals (such as the elderly and those with disabilities). This term is being replaced by the umbrella term “Mistreatment,” which refers to any and all types of abuse.
Medicaid Waivers	Medicaid Waiver: A provision in Medicaid law that waives rules that usually apply to the Medicaid program. The intention is to allow states to accomplish certain goals, such as reducing costs, expanding coverage, or improving care for specific target groups such as the elderly or pregnant women.
MHC	Mental Health Center: A facility providing services for the prevention or diagnosis of mental illness, the care and treatment of mentally ill patients, the rehabilitation of mentally ill individuals, or any combination of these services.
MI	Mental Illness
MIN	Most in Need Assessment: A questionnaire completed to determine an individual’s spot on the Family Support Services waiting list.
MOC	Mother of Child
MSP/Medicaid	Medicaid State Plan or Medicaid: Provides health coverage to individuals, including children, pregnant women, parents, seniors, and individuals with disabilities. Medicaid. In Colorado, basic Medicaid includes access to 1. Physical health benefits, 2. Dental benefits, 3. Behavioral health (mental health and substance use benefits).
NA	Needs Assessment
NEMT	Non-Emergent Medical Transportation: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/non-emergent-medical-transportation
NF	Nursing Facility
NH	Nursing Home

Acronym	Definition
NICU	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
NIH	National Institutes of Health: https://www.nih.gov/
NIMH	National Institute of Mental Health: https://www.nimh.nih.gov/
NMT	Non-Medical Transportation: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/nmt
NOA	<p>Notice of Action: A notice of change in services (e.g., decreased, ended, or approved). These notices are required for Medicaid-funded benefits and are completed by the agency making the determination and/or the case management agency.</p> <p>Individuals are able to appeal actions through the Office of Administrative Courts: https://oac.colorado.gov/. Rules regarding NOAs for home and community-based waivers can be found in the Colorado Rules and Regulations, at 10 CCR 2505-10 8.500.</p>
OBH	Office of Behavioral Health
OBRA-SS	<p>Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act Specialized Services: Home and Community Based Services for individuals where the Pre- Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) Level II Evaluation identified the need for placement into a nursing facility and need for additional specialized services.</p> <p>This program is similar to state Supported Living services except individuals are living in a nursing home. Supports ages 18 years and older.</p>
OCL	<p>Office of Community Living: A division of HCPF that was created in 2012 to oversee Colorado's long- term services and supports, including the I/DD waivers that Developmental Pathways administers: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/office-community-living</p>
OSA	Office of the State Auditor: https://leg.colorado.gov/agencies/office-of-the-state-auditor
OSEP	Office of Special Education Programs: https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped
OT	Occupational Therapy/Therapist
PACE	Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly: https://www.innovage.com/
PAD-CO	Parents of Adults with Disabilities in Colorado

Acronym	Definition
PAR	Prior Authorization Request: A request to the state or a private insurer that will permit an individual to receive services and allow for reimbursement of costs to a provider. As the name states this must be submitted and approved prior to services being rendered.
PART C	PART C: Federal funding for infant/toddler programs through the Division of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities; also known in Colorado as Early Childhood Colorado.
PASA	Program Approved Service Agency: An agency licensed and approved to provide I/DD Medicaid Waiver services (residential, day program, behavioral) to individuals as outlined in their Service Plan.
PASRR	Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review: This screening and evaluation tool is used to help ensure individuals are not inappropriately placed in nursing homes for long term care particularly if the individual has mental health needs or an I/DD diagnosis.
PAT	Pediatric Assessment Tool: Completed by Home Health Agency to determine level of care needed for a child wanting to access LTHH.
PCA	Personal Care Alternative: A residential setting based in an apartment or home serving three or fewer clients.
PCBA	Person-Center Budget Algorithm: The Department of Health Care Policy & Financing is working to develop a Person-Centered Budget Algorithm (PCBA) for Health First Colorado Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver programs. PCBA will help identify the right amount of support for members based on assessed need, and together with strengths and preferences identified during the assessment, contribute to a determined funding limit and a person-centered support plan.
PCMP	Primary Care Medical Provider
PCP	Primary Care Physician
PCSP	Person-Centered Support Plan: Also known as Support Plan or Service Plan: The Support Plan uses information captured in the 100.2 assessment to develop a person-centered plan for meeting a participant's LTSS needs. While the Support Plan authorizes Home and Community Based Services (HCBS), it is also used to identify a participant's personal goals and supports to help achieve those goals. The plans for achieving these goals may include HCBS Waiver services and other supports, such as unpaid help, help paid by another support, and referrals.
PDP	Professional Developmental Plan

Acronym	Definition
PEAK	<p>Program Eligibility and Application Kit: PEAK allows you to perform an eligibility screening for food assistance, cash assistance, and family and children's medical assistance programs. This tool is ideal for people who want to assess whether they might be eligible before beginning the application process. PEAK can also be used by Medicaid members to manage their Medicaid coverage and update their information.</p> <p>https://peak.my.site.com/peak/s/peak-landing-page?language=en_US</p>
PERS	<p>Personal Emergency Response System: Medical alert device that allows individuals, typically seniors or those with disabilities, to quickly call for help in an emergency by pressing a button, often through a monitoring service often provided as a service under one of the HCBS Medicaid Waivers.</p>
PETI	<p>Post-Eligibility Treatment of Income: PETI is a required set of guidelines for calculating the amounts Health First Colorado and the members each pay for certain Alternative Care Facility and Supported Living Program services. Case Managers have access to automated worksheets that calculate these amounts. Used with EBD, BI, and CMHS waivers if the residential services are utilized.</p>
PM	<p>Program Manager: A position that manages a residential, day service or work facility program for PASAs; PM indicates management level, usually responsible for supervising service coordinator, case manager, and administrative level staff.</p>
PMPM	<p>Per Member/Per Month: A payment methodology implemented by HCPF outlining a flat rate to be paid to CMAs who document at least one targeted case management activity at least one time per month per member enrolled in an LTSS program.</p>
PMIP	<p>Professional Medical Information Page: A document signed by a medical professional indicating that an individual meets the medical criteria for Long Term Care services.</p>
PNA	<p>Personal Needs Account</p>
PNO	<p>Parents Night Out</p>
POC	<p>Plan of Care</p>
POC	<p>Parent of Child</p>
PPA	<p>Pre-Prior Authorization: This is the number assigned to a service plan in the Bridge when it is created, but before it has been approved.</p>
PQ	<p>Program Quality</p>

Acronym	Definition
PRTF	Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility
PT	Physical Therapy/Therapist
PWN	Prior Written Notice
QA	Quality Assurance
QRTP	Qualified Residential Treatment Program
RAE	Regional Accountable Entity: An organization that connects Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) members to medical providers and behavioral health providers with the goals of cost savings, continuity of care, and improving health care outcomes. Colorado Access is the SEP for region 3 which includes Adams, Arapahoe, Denver, Douglas, and Elbert Counties. For a list of RAEs in Colorado, please visit https://hcpf.colorado.gov/accphase2 .
RC	Regional Center: State-run facilities for persons with developmental disabilities. There are three in the state of Colorado: Wheat Ridge, Grand Junction, and Pueblo.
RCCF	Residential Child Care Facility
RCCO	Regional Care Collaborative Organizations: An organization that connects Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) members to providers and helps members find community and social services in their area.
RFP	Request for Proposal: A request that is sent out to appropriate service agencies asking for proposals to serve specific individuals looking for a new service or service provider.
ROI	Release of Information
RSU	Referral Status Update
SC	Service Coordinator: Title for staff supporting Community Outreach Waitlist & Early Intervention programming; like case managers, these individuals support coordination and monitoring of services to individuals and their families.
SCC	Supported Community Connections: A type of Day Habilitation Services (DHSS) to help individuals get, keep, and improve self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills.

Acronym	Definition
	Supported Community Connections Services support the abilities and skills needed for you to access typical activities of community life. These include community education or training, and retirement and volunteer activities.
SCM	Senior Case Manager: Sometimes known as a senior service coordinator or senior resource coordinator, which means a person who provides case management services and meets all regulatory requirements for case managers and is a lead or advanced case management role.
SCMS	Senior Case Management Specialist: A person who supports case management work and is a lead or advanced case specialist management role.
SCP	Safety Control Procedure: A restrictive procedure or restraint that is used to control a previously exhibited behavior which is anticipated to occur again and for which the planned method of intervention is developed in order to keep the person and others safe.
SE	Supported Employment: A service that assists people with disabilities in finding community-based jobs.
SED	Serious Emotional Disturbance
SEP	Single Entry Point: The name of an agency that has historically been responsible for managing the implementation of several HCBS Waivers (CHCBS, CLLI, SCI, BI, CMHS, EBD). With Case Management Redesign, all long term care programs are now overseen by a single Case Management Agency (CMA) per designated service area.
SH	Specialized Habilitation: A type of Day Habilitation Services (DHSS) to help individuals get, keep, and improve self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills. Specialized Habilitation Services help individuals reach their highest skill level so they can be more self-sufficient. Services include help with self-feeding, toileting, self-care, sensory stimulation and integration, self-sufficiency, maintenance skills and supervision.
SIS	Support Intensity Scale Assessment: A tool to measure the intensity of a person's support needs, designed to provide information that can help planning teams, agencies, and organizations understand the support need of people with intellectual/developmental disabilities. Also determines the support level for the individual which can determine funding and reimbursement rates for services.
SL	Support Level: This level is determined from the Support Intensity Scale Assessment.
SLP	Speech Language Pathologist

Acronym	Definition
SLR	Support Level Review: Refers to the Support Level Review process, which reviews situations where it is believed that a member does not have a Support Level that meets their current needs.
SLS Waiver	Supported Living Services Waiver: Adults with developmental disabilities who can live independently with limited support or who, if they need extensive help, are getting that from other sources, such as their family. Supports ages 18 years and older.
SMI	Serious Mental Illness
SP	Service Plan: A written document developed by the individual and their interdisciplinary team that drives the programs, supports, and services delivered to the individual in the next year.
SPAL	<p>Service Plan Authorization Limit: Refers to a financial spending limit in the Supported Living Services (SLS) Waiver that includes most services with some exceptions.</p> <p>The SPAL is determined by the Support Level (1-6) that is calculated by the SIS assessment. Higher Support Levels have a larger budgetary limit.</p>
SPS	Sheridan School District No. 2: https://www.ssd2.org/
SSA	<p>Can refer to the Social Security Administration: An agency of the federal government that administers Social Security, a social insurance program consisting of retirement, disability, and survivors' benefits. https://www.ssa.gov/</p> <p>Or the Social Security Act: An act to provide for the general welfare by establishing a system of Federal old-age benefits, and by enabling the several States to make more adequate provision for aged persons, blind persons, dependent and crippled children, maternal and child welfare, public health, and the administration of their unemployment compensation laws; to establish a Social Security Board; to raise revenue; and for other purposes. https://www.ssa.gov/history/35act.html</p>
SSDI	Social Security Disability Insurance: A Social Security benefit available to qualifying persons. https://www.ssa.gov/benefits/disability/
SSI	Supplemental Security Income: Federal monetary benefit available to qualifying persons. https://www.ssa.gov/ssi/
S-SLS or State SLS	State Supported Living Services: Similar in services to the SLS Medicaid Waiver, except this is a state funded program for adults who are not eligible for Medicaid and who either can live independently with limited support or who, if they need extensive help, are getting that from other sources, such as their family. Supports ages 18 years and older.

Acronym	Definition
ST	Speech Therapy
TABOR	[The Colorado] Taxpayer's Bill of Rights: Refers to The Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) Amendment approved by Colorado voters in 1992. This amendment to the Constitution of the State of Colorado generally limits the amount of revenue governments in the state can retain and spend. Absent voter approval, it requires excess revenue to be refunded to taxpayers.
TANF	Temporary Assistance to Needy Families: In Colorado, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program is known as Colorado Works. It is a cash assistance program that helps eligible families with very low incomes become self-sufficient by encouraging job preparation, work, and family stabilization. https://cdhs.colorado.gov/colorado-works
TCM	Targeted Case Management: State-plan funded services provided by a CCB or CMA that includes facilitating enrollment; locating, coordinating, and monitoring needed disability services; and coordinating with other non-developmental disability-funded services.
The Bridge	The Bridge: A subsystem of the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing's (HCPF) new Colorado InterChange system that supports service planning and prior authorization.
TPS	Total Plan Spending: Refers to a total upper financial spending limit for all services and supports in the Supported Living Services (SLS) and Children's Extensive Services Waivers. In SLS, the SPAL is determined by the Support Level (1-6) that is calculated by the SIS assessment. Higher Support Levels have a larger budgetary limit.
TRCCF	Therapeutic Residential Child Care Facilities
TS	Transition Services: available to members transitioning from an institutional setting to a community-based setting; Services include Life Skills training, home delivered meals, peer mentorship and transition set up
UR or UM	Utilization Review/Utilization Management: As part of quarterly monitoring, a case manager will monitor the usage of services approved in a member's plan. Ideally at the end of the plan year, members will have fully utilized all the services they had identified as needing. At the annual review and throughout the year for those who are under/over utilized, revisions may be needed.
VM	Vehicle Modification(s): Adaptation(s) or alteration(s) to a car, truck or van that is the primary vehicle to accommodate an individual with special needs.

Acronym	Definition
WaWD	Working Adults with Disabilities: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/buy-in-program-working-adults-disabilities
WIC	Women, Infants, and Children’s Food Assistance Program: WIC safeguards the health of low-income women, infants, and children up to age 5 by providing supplemental foods, nutrition education, and healthcare referrals. https://cdphe.colorado.gov/healthy-eating-and-active-living/special-supplemental-nutrition-program-for-women-infants-and
100.2	Level of care assessment required for annual waiver program enrollment and eligibility. It is entered into the CCM (Care and Case Management) System. This assessment will be replaced by the CSA (Colorado Single Assessment) in the future.

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