



# Independent Living / Skills Building

Magellan Health is seeking providers interested in developing and implementing Independent Living / Skills Building services within the Louisiana Coordinated System of Care (CSoC). This Tip Sheet is intended to provide resource information, next steps, and contact information for those providers considering expanding into this service.

## **Brief Overview of Independent Living / Skills Building Services \***

Independent living/skills building services are designed to assist youth who are or will be transitioning to adulthood with support in improving self-help, socialization and adaptive skills necessary to be successful in employment, housing, education and community life. Services are individualized according to each youth's strengths, interests, skills, goals and are included on an individualized plan of care. It is expected that independent living/skills building activities take place in the community.

Examples could include (not an all-inclusive list):

- a grocery or clothing store, (teaching the young person how to shop for food, or what type of clothing is appropriate for interviews)
- unemployment office (assist in seeking jobs, assisting the youth in completing applications for jobs)
- apartment complexes (to seek out housing opportunities)
- laundromats (how to wash own clothes)
- life safety skills (ability to access emergency services, basic safety practices and evacuation)
- physical and mental health care (maintenance, scheduling physician appointments)
- recognizing when to contact a physician, self administration of medication, understanding purpose and possible side effects of medications
- use of transportation (accessing public transportation, learning to drive, obtaining insurance)

Transportation provided between the youth's place of residence, other services sites or places in the community, and the cost of transportation is included in the rate paid to providers of this service.

Services provided to children and youth must include communication and coordination with the family and/or legal guardian, including any agency legally responsible for the care or custody of the child. Coordination with other child-serving systems should occur, as needed, to achieve the treatment goals, and all coordination must be documented in the youth's medical record. The time spent in coordination activities is not billable time; however, there is a factor for coordination built into the rates.

Independent living/skills building services do not duplicate any other Medicaid State Plan service or service otherwise available to recipient at no cost.



### The eligibility criteria:

For Medicaid eligible: Any individual found eligible, through a CANS comprehensive screening, for enrollment in the CSoC program (HCBS, CSoC SED Waiver eligible or CSoC LON under 1915(b)(3)).

For other non-Medicaid eligible: Any individual found eligible, through a CANS comprehensive screening, for enrollment in the CSoC program, but not eligible for Medicaid (charged back to appropriate state agency or the family).

### Resources and Next Steps:

- Access the Louisiana [Service Definition Manual](#) SDM (pages 8-9) for additional information on Provider Qualifications, Eligibility Criteria, Limitations/Exclusions, and Additional Service Criteria.
- Click [here](#) for the **Louisiana Services Manual Codes** and service fees.
- Magellan contracting contact:  
Sharonda Gray, Phone: 318-524-8829, or [sgray@magellanhealth.com](mailto:sgray@magellanhealth.com).

Visit us at: [www.MagellanofLouisiana.com](http://www.MagellanofLouisiana.com)

\* This Tip Sheet is intended as an aid in researching specifics of this CSoC service. For a thorough description of this service and related requirements, please refer to the resources listed under “Resources and Next Steps.”