



## Minnesota Department of **Human Services**

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# MnCHOICES Initiative

## What is MnCHOICES?

MnCHOICES is a single, comprehensive assessment and support planning web-based application for long-term services and supports in Minnesota. Funded by the 2009 Legislature, it reflects stakeholder recommendations and takes the place of the following assessment tools that are currently used:

- Developmental Disability Screening
- Long-Term Care Consultation
- Personal Care Assistance Assessment

In the future MnCHOICES will also replace the Private Duty Nursing Assessment.

MnCHOICES uses a person-centered planning approach to make decisions about long-term services and supports. It includes standards and protocols and serves as a common data collection tool.

## What does MnCHOICES accomplish?

- Standardizes in-person assessments for long-term services and supports
- Allows for timely consideration of support options reimbursed through Medical Assistance long-term service programs
- Provides additional data to evaluate outcomes
- Streamlines support plan development
- Determines eligibility for publicly funded programs and services for all ages and disabilities including:
  - Alternative Care Program
  - Brain Injury Waiver
  - Community Alternative Care Waiver
  - Community Alternatives for Disabled Individuals Waiver
  - Community Support Grant
  - Developmental Disability Waiver
  - Day Training and Habilitation
  - Elderly Waiver
  - Family Support Grant
  - Moving Home Minnesota
  - Personal Care Assistance Services
  - Case Management
  - Semi-Independent Living Services

## What are MnCHOICES goals?

- Provide greater consistency in how eligibility is determined for publicly funded long-term services and supports across Minnesota
- Implement a single comprehensive assessment to determine needs and support planning.

## Who will benefit?

MnCHOICES will benefit people of all ages and disabilities who need long-term services and supports. It will also benefit lead agencies (counties, tribes and managed care organizations) responsible for completing assessments and support planning.

## What are some of the benefits of a MnCHOICES assessment?

- Supports a person-centered approach that tailors services to an individual's strengths, preferences and needs
- Promotes equal access across populations and geographic areas
- Eliminates multiple assessments for different programs
- Uses technology to reduce paperwork
- Facilitates support planning
- Allows for statewide measurement of quality assurance indicators.

## How many people will benefit?

In 2012, a total of 128,799 assessments were completed in Minnesota. It is projected that more than 143,000 assessments will be completed in 2015 and more than 185,000 will be completed in 2020.

## What is the status of MnCHOICES?

MnCHOICES was launched Nov. 4, 2013, in Dakota and Ramsey counties and the White Earth Nation. The target date for all agencies to be launched into MnCHOICES is by the end of 2014.

## Other information resources

- MnCHOICES email: [DHS.Mnchoices@state.mn.us](mailto:DHS.Mnchoices@state.mn.us)
- MnCHOICES public website pages: <http://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/continuing-care/reform-initiatives/mnchoices>
- MnCHOICES page on DHS CountyLink: [http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/dhs16\\_180264](http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/dhs16_180264)

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