

## Community Transition Program: Money Follows the Person Frequently Asked Questions

### What is Money Follows the Person?

Money Follows the Person (MFP) is a federal demonstration program that helps eligible individuals currently living in long-term care facilities – such as nursing homes, hospitals, and other qualified institutions – successfully transition back into the community. It is administered by the Department of Aging and Community Living's Community Transition Program.

### Who is eligible? Is this program for me?

- DC Resident
- 60 years of age and older; an adult with disabilities 18 years and older
- Eligible for the DC Elderly and Disabled Persons Medicaid Waiver (EPD)
- Currently living in a long-term care or hospital setting for at least three months
- Interested in living independently in the community

### How does it work?

MFP provides the funds, services, and support you will need for a successful transition back into the community. Assistance is available to help you return to your current home or apartment. If that is not possible, other housing options including individual accessible apartments, assisted living, and group homes may be available. A Transition Care Specialist would be assigned to help you navigate the transition process, working with you and your care team on a one-to-one basis to develop a plan that's right for you.

### How does the money follow me?

The cost of your current nursing home care is the dollar limit for your services in the community. Your actual budget, however, will be determined by your needs. You do not automatically get the dollar limit if you don't need it. Note: MFP does not give money directly to you.

### What does the program pay for?

MFP pays for your care in the community as well as various expenses that occur when a person moves into a more independent situation. Based on your circumstances and needs, you may be eligible to receive help with home modifications, rent and security deposits, along with one-time household setup costs.

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### **What kind of support can I expect?**

Your Transition Care Specialist will work with you and your care team to help find a place for you to live and identify service providers such as nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapist, and home health aides in your community.

### **How long does it take?**

1. The first step of the process is to be assessed by a nurse assessor to meet the nursing home level of care.
2. The second step is to apply for and be approved for the DC Medicaid EPD Waiver.
3. The third step is to create a person-centered transition plan. While the goal is to move as quickly as possible, each plan is based on individual needs, and therefore each timeline to transition is different. Your Transition Care Specialist will advise you what to expect in your situation.

### **How much care can I receive?**

Your care plan is dependent on your situation. The care management team will help assess what level of care will help provide a safe and successful transition to the community. The assessment also looks at how many hours are needed to be covered every day.

### **Do I have a say?**

The transition process centers around you. If you desire to remain in your current situation, you can choose to stay where you are. At each stage of the transition process, you have the choice of whether to continue.

### **How do I learn more?**

For more information or to make a referral, call the DC Department of Aging and Community Living Information & Referral/Assistance Unit at (202) 724-5626 or send an email to [dacl@dc.gov](mailto:dacl@dc.gov).

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