

**SECTION
SERVICES**

**SUBJECT
Life Coach**

REFERENCES: ARM: 37. 90.436

DEFINITION

A Life Coach is a recovery oriented aide that possesses the skills to assist the member with their ADL/IADLs. In addition to this, they will help the member with:

1. A therapeutic behavioral support plan if put in place by qualified professionals
2. A program to work on needed independence skills identified in the Person Centered Recovery Plan. The Personal Assistant will provide appropriate training of the identified skills
3. Money management services
4. Budgeting assistance and navigation of public services (i.e. Office of Public Assistance, Social Security Administration, Housing, Human Resource Development Councils, Bureau of Indian Affairs)

REQUIREMENTS

A Life Coach who serves members on the waiver must receive a minimum of 8 hours of training in mental health and recovery. Training and certification must be approved by the Community Program Officer (CPO). The Helena College, University of Montana offer an online certification program for direct care mental health providers. This program meets the mental health training requirement for Life Coach.

A Life Coach who serves members with physical disabilities must receive 4 hours of disability-specific training. Life Coaches who serve individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury must receive an additional 4 hours of TBI-specific training. Training and certification must be approved by the CPO. It is the responsibility of the provider agency to ensure that assistants are appropriately trained under agency based services.

A Life Coach will have a working knowledge of local community resources and the public service system. They must be able to provide accurate and timely money management services under agency standards.

Individuals providing **ONLY** money management and budgeting assistance are not required to complete the specific mental health and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) training. Previous money management experience is required, any exception of this requirement will only occur with approval of the CPO and a 6 month probationary period.

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QUALIFICATION FOR SERVICE

Members must meet one of the following qualifications to be eligible for a Life Coach:

1. Persons with a brain injury whose needs cannot be met by standard personal assistance services (PAS)
2. Person with a severe physical disability whose needs cannot be met by standard PAS
3. Person with a severe disabling mental illness whose needs can't be met by standard PAS

PAYMENT TO LEGALLY RESPONSIBLE INDIVIDUALS

Payment for this service may be made to legally responsible individuals if program criteria are met.

RETAINER PAYMENTS

Providers of this service may be eligible for retainer payments if authorized by the case management team. Retainer days are days on which the individual is either in the hospital, nursing facility, or on vacation. Payment for retainer days may not exceed 30 days or 720 hours per Person-Centered Recovery Plan year. Refer to SDMI HCBS 410.