

Eligibility

To be an eligible recipient of the Respite Voucher, both the primary family caregiver and care receiver must meet the specific criteria listed

Family Caregiver:

- The primary family caregiver must be unpaid
 - *Family caregivers who receive financial compensation to care for their loved one are not eligible. Examples include, but are not limited to, payments from the Department of Social Services (foster care, adoption subsidies, kinship care) and caregivers who are employed as their loved one's Personal Care Aid through a Medicaid Waiver*
- Be between the age of 18 and 54 years old.

Care Receiver:

- Not currently receiving care/support services

In order to provide relief for families with no structured assistance, caregivers of those enrolled in Medicaid waivers and other support programs are ineligible. Examples include, but are not limited to: HIV/AIDS Waiver, Community Choices Waiver, Intellectual Disability/Related Disabilities (ID/RD) Waiver, Head and Spinal Cord Injury (HASCI) Waiver, Community Supports Waiver, Ventilator Dependent Waiver for Adults, and Medically Complex Children's Waivers

- Unable to be left alone due to a disability, significant special needs, or terminal illness.
- Be no more than 59 years old, without a diagnosis of Alzheimer's or Dementia related illness.

Prioritization

Once eligibility is approved, accepted applications will be placed into priority for funding based on:

- Individuals who have not received a SCRC voucher within the past 24 months
- Individuals residing in underserved areas
- Individuals with the greatest economic need
- Individuals with limited English-speaking ability

Distribution

SCRC vouchers are distributed on "first come, first served" as funding is available.

- Family caregivers may receive one \$500 voucher within a 12-month federal fiscal year, dependent on available funds. Subject to change based on available funding.
- Reimbursement for respite received via the voucher may take up to 45 days, but usually 2-3 weeks.
- All documentation/timesheets must be completed accurately before reimbursement is processed.

Usage & Expiration

Vouchers are used to assist in paying for short, temporary breaks from hands on caregiving and may not be used to:

- Pay the family caregiver directly for care that he/she provides
- Pay for a family member or friend residing in the same home / property to provide care
- Pay for care of loved one while the caregiver goes to work
- Reimburse the family caregiver for respite services which occurred before a voucher was issued
- Pay family and friends who are willing to provide respite, or are already helping, free of charge.

All vouchers expire after 60 days from the approval notification date.

- An additional 15-day extension may be granted upon request and at the discretion of SCRC.
- Any unused and/or expired voucher funds will be forfeited and allocated back into the program.