

Assisted Living Waiver Program

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ltc/Pages/AssistedLivingWaiver.aspx>

The Assisted Living Waiver Program (ALWP) was created by legislation to test the efficacy of assisted living as a Medi-Cal benefit. Locally, it is available for residents of Orange and Los Angeles Counties. This program is not available in Ventura County.

Applicants have at least a two year wait. Open ALWP slots are released to Care Coordination Agencies (aka CCA) on a regular basis. A current listing of Care Coordination Agencies can be found here:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/ltc/Documents/Care-Coordination-Agencies.pdf>

For Care Coordination Agencies, we suggest **Access TLC or Libertana**. Both are on this list.

Steps to enroll in ALWP

1. The client must be enrolled in MediCal.
2. The client selects a CCA.
3. CCA sends an application to the client or client downloads the application directly from the CCA website.
4. The client fills it out and returns it to CCA with a Power of Attorney if appropriate.
5. CCA telephones and screens the client.
6. CCA submits application to the State.
7. When an opening becomes available, CCA calls the client, does assessment and asks which ALWP communities/homes the client prefers.
8. CCA calls the locations and checks availability.

Waiting list is approximately two years. There are two ways to expedite the process.

- If a client is hospitalized and going to a skilled nursing facility (SNF) for rehab, they may be able to go through the above process (steps 1-7) and discharge directly from the SNF into an available facility. CCA nurse must do the assessment in the hospital or SNF prior to discharge. The chosen facility must have an available room.
- If Adult Protective Services is involved, the waiting period is usually no more than two months. The APS social worker calls the CCA and authorizes them to interview the client