

## Your Guide to CLASS Acronyms and Terms

The process of starting services on the CLASS program will bring a lot of changes, and one of those changes will be to your vocabulary. You will need to learn a lot of acronyms and some new words. To help you out, we have summarized the most common for you:

- **AA** – Adaptive Aid: A device to assist in daily activities of living, such as a special chair. The CLASS program will pay for certain adaptive aids.
- **CLASS** – Community Living Assistance and Support Services: A program to assist people with disabilities in achieving a community-integrated lifestyle. To qualify, the individual must be diagnosed with a severe chronic disability (due to disease, birth defects, or trauma) which occurred prior to their 22nd birthday.
- **CDS** – Consumer Directed Services: A program within CLASS that allows a participant to hire and manage their own personal assistants and direct In-Home and Out-of-Home Respite services.
- **CMA** – Case Management Agency: An agency that assists in the coordination of care for the participant.
- **DSA** – Direct Service Agency: The home care agency that provides personal assistants, respite services, and therapies as called for in the Individual Program Plan.
- **Hab Plan** – Habilitation Plan: A plan developed by the case manager, program director, participant, and/or family detailing the amount of time and type of support provided by the personal assistant.
- **HHS** – Health and Human Services. This agency coordinates and monitors CLASS services for the state of Texas.
- **HM** – Home Modification: See MHM below.
- **IDT** – Interdisciplinary Team: A team consisting of the participant and/or family, the direct service agency, and the case management agency. Others may be invited.
- **IHR** – In-Home Respite: Intended as a break for the primary caretaker. Respite units are budgeted in 24-hour increments but do not have to be used that way.
- **IPC** – Individual Plan of Care: A one-page summary developed by the case manager at the IDT meeting listing all services and costs. Sent to DADS for approval.
- **IPP** – Individual Program Plan: A multipage document prepared annually and updated quarterly by the client and case manager. It details services, goals, responsibilities, timelines, and costs.
- **LOC** – Level of Care: Also called MRRC. Determination made by the DSA nurse based on nursing assessment and Scales of Independent Behavior – Revised (SIB-R). Physician signs initial LOC.
- **MHM** – Minor Home Modification: Authorized under IPP to promote independent living (e.g., ramps, bathroom modifications).
- **MRRC** – Form completed by DSA nurse to determine level of care.

- **NA** – Nursing Assessment: Required annually and after hospitalization. Includes overall health assessment, LOC, related conditions screening, and functional ability evaluation using SIB-R.
- **OHR** – Out-of-Home Respite: Provides a break for the primary caretaker in a nursing facility or accredited camp.
- **PCA** – Personal Care Attendant: Provides personal care to the participant.
- **PD** – Program Director: Supervises care provision at the DSA.
- **RC** – Related Conditions: Severe chronic disability preventing performance of at least three of six major life skills (self-care, understanding, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living). Related conditions screening is done annually.
- **SIB-R** – Scales of Independent Behavior – Revised: Approved test for evaluating functional abilities.