



CDPAP vs. Personal Care Services in New York: What Are the Differences?

There are various types of home care options in New York, and it can be challenging to understand how they work and the differences between them. Here’s a look at two popular Medicaid home care programs in the state and how they compare.

What is CDPAP?

The Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP) is a home care option for those who are aging or have disabilities. The program is self-directed, allowing eligible individuals on Medicaid to choose their own caregivers, and caregivers get paid to help them.

What are Personal Care Services (PCS) through a Licensed Home Care Services Agency (LHCSA)?

PCS is also a home care program, but care is directed by agencies. A designated LHCSA provides each participant with nursing care, housekeepers, personal-care attendants, and other health and social services.

What can I do through CDPAP vs. PCS?

Both CDPAP and PCS are New York State Medicaid programs, but they operate differently.

Can I...	CDPAP	PCS
Choose, hire, train, fire, and manage schedules for my caregiver?	Yes	No - an agency assigns caregivers to you and manages their time.
Choose a family member or friend to be my caregiver?	Yes	No - this requires special approval.
Have my caregiver help administer my medications or perform certain medical tasks for me, like helping me with medications and checking temperature, pulse, blood pressure, and sugar/glucose?	Yes	No

I’m interested in consumer direction with CDPAP. How do I know if the program is right for me?



YOUR LIFE
YOUR CARE
YOUR PEOPLE

To participate in CDPAP, consumers must be eligible for Medicaid and be assessed through the New York Independent Assessor Program (NYIAP). Those who may qualify:

- Are Medicaid eligible
- Have a need for home care services, including assistance with daily living activities or skilled nursing
- Have received authorization from a local social services department or managed care plan
- Can self-direct their care or have a designated representative to help

CDPAP is designed to enable dignity, independence, and flexibility, making it ideal for those who want the highest level of control over their care. Program consumers have the freedom to choose their own trusted caregiver and manage their own care schedules.

I've decided I want more control over my care. Where do I start?

Once participants confirm their eligibility for CDPAP, they can contact PPL for next steps. PPL will assist with eligibility questions, complete the registration process, and ensure consumers and caregivers (known as personal assistants in CDPAP) understand what to expect from the program.

PPL's support doesn't end there — we're ready to guide consumers and personal assistants through every step of the self-direction journey.

Ready to begin? [Learn more and contact us](#) today.