



Ohio Revised Code

Section 173.521 Home first component.

Effective: March 20, 2025

Legislation: Senate Bill 196 - 135th General Assembly

(A) The department of aging shall establish a home first component of the PASSPORT program under which eligible individuals may be enrolled in the medicaid-funded component of the PASSPORT program in accordance with this section. An individual is eligible for the PASSPORT program's home first component if both of the following apply:

(1) The individual has been determined to be eligible for the medicaid-funded component of the PASSPORT program.

(2) At least one of the following applies:

(a) The individual has been admitted to a nursing facility.

(b) A physician, certified nurse-midwife if authorized as described in section 4723.438 of the Revised Code, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse practitioner has determined and documented in writing that the individual has a medical condition that, unless the individual is enrolled in home and community-based services such as the PASSPORT program, will require the individual to be admitted to a nursing facility within thirty days of the physician's or nurse's determination.

(c) The individual has been hospitalized and a physician, certified nurse-midwife if authorized as described in section 4723.438 of the Revised Code, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse practitioner has determined and documented in writing that, unless the individual is enrolled in home and community-based services such as the PASSPORT program, the individual is to be transported directly from the hospital to a nursing facility and admitted.

(d) Both of the following apply:

(i) The individual is the subject of a report made under section 5101.63 of the Revised Code



regarding abuse, neglect, or exploitation or such a report referred to a county department of job and family services under section 5126.31 of the Revised Code or has made a request to a county department for protective services as defined in section 5101.60 of the Revised Code.

(ii) A county department of job and family services and an area agency on aging have jointly documented in writing that, unless the individual is enrolled in home and community-based services such as the PASSPORT program, the individual should be admitted to a nursing facility.

(B) Each month, each area agency on aging shall identify individuals residing in the area that the agency serves who are eligible for the home first component of the PASSPORT program. When an area agency on aging identifies such an individual, the agency shall notify the long-term care consultation program administrator serving the area in which the individual resides. The administrator shall determine whether the PASSPORT program is appropriate for the individual and whether the individual would rather participate in the PASSPORT program than continue or begin to reside in a nursing facility. If the administrator determines that the PASSPORT program is appropriate for the individual and the individual would rather participate in the PASSPORT program than continue or begin to reside in a nursing facility, the administrator shall so notify the department of aging. On receipt of the notice from the administrator, the department shall approve the individual's enrollment in the medicaid-funded component of the PASSPORT program regardless of the unified waiting list established under section 173.55 of the Revised Code, unless the enrollment would cause the component to exceed any limit on the number of individuals who may be enrolled in the component as set by the United States secretary of health and human services in the PASSPORT waiver.