

IHCP *bulletin*

INDIANA HEALTH COVERAGE PROGRAMS BT202573 MAY 27, 2025

FSSA announces launch of Indiana Level of Care Representative

Beginning July 1, 2025, the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) will launch phase two of the **Indiana Level of Care Assessment Representative (LCAR)** process to complete assessments for those seeking nursing facility admission or long-term services and supports through a 1915(c) Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver that requires a nursing facility level of care (NF LOC).



An individual must be assessed and determined to meet NF LOC criteria to be considered eligible for admission to a nursing facility for Medicaid-funded services or to access long-term services and supports under the Health and Wellness (H&W), Indiana PathWays for Aging (PathWays) or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) waivers. Maximus currently reviews LOC assessments and makes determinations for those seeking admittance to, or continued stay in, an NF. Beginning July 1, 2025, Maximus (as the LCAR contractor) will be conducting LOC assessments and making NF LOC determinations both for NF admittance and for eligibility into the H&W, TBI and PathWays waivers.

NFs will continue to perform LOC assessments for their existing residents until January 2026, at which point, this function will also be shifted to LCAR.

The goal of LCAR is to streamline and enhance access to NF LOC assessments in a timely and effective manner. The FSSA is dedicated to enhancing quality and efficiency for evaluating eligibility to access services and supports. NF LOC determinations are based on the interRAI suite of assessment tools. The FSSA will oversee the LCAR process and perform a final review of all NF LOC determination recommendations.

With the launch of LCAR, Independent Case Management (ICM) agencies and Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) will no longer assess individuals for NF LOC. These agencies will continue to facilitate and coordinate service planning, primarily for individuals on the H&W and TBI waivers. The AAAs will also continue to provide case management, information and referrals to various services for older adults and people with disabilities of any age.

Beginning July 1, 2025, LCAR will complete all NF LOC assessments, with the following exceptions:

- Hospitals may continue to complete LOC assessments on Maximus AssessmentPro for inpatients seeking nursing facility placement.
- NFs will continue to complete LOC assessments and reassessments on Maximus AssessmentPro for new and existing residents until Jan. 1, 2026.
- Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) providers will continue to complete annual NF LOC reassessments on Maximus AssessmentPro for individuals actively receiving PACE services, but will no longer conduct initial NF LOC assessments for individuals wanting to access PACE services.
- PathWays managed care entities (MCEs) will submit interRAI data elements to Maximus AssessmentPro for their members using the member's full Comprehensive Health Assessment Tool (CHAT), which LCAR will then use to complete the LOC assessment.
- AAAs may submit interRAI data elements to Maximus AssessmentPro for individuals they currently support in nonwaiver programs, when the individuals' needs change and they begin to seek NF care or H&W, PathWays or TBI waiver services.



In all the preceding cases, the assessment information must continue to be submitted to Maximus through the AssessmentPro system for review and determination. For entities that continue to complete the assessments on AssessmentPro (hospitals, NFs and PACE facilities), the short-form interRAI will no longer be available; instead, the appropriate full interRAI assessment must be used:

- interRAI Home Care (HC) – Age 18 and older
- interRAI Pediatric Home Care (PEDS) – Age 4 through 17
- interRAI Early Years (EY) – Age 0 through 3

How to request an NF LOC assessment

To request an NF LOC assessment, contact the Indiana LCAR – Maximus Help Desk at 833-597-2777, and a team member will gather information needed to schedule the assessment with an LCAR assessor.

Any entity that has access to the Maximus AssessmentPro system may submit an electronic request using the Assessment Request form.

Impacts for the PASRR process

All individuals seeking placement in a Medicaid-certified nursing facility must complete the Preadmission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR) process, including a Level I screen and, if indicated, a Level II evaluation.

Under the current system, nursing facilities, hospitals and AAAs complete the PASRR Level I screen and submit it to Maximus for a determination. Effective July 1, 2025, with the launch of Indiana LCAR (for which Maximus is the contractor), AAAs will no longer complete Level I screens, but instead will submit requests to LCAR to conduct these screens. Beginning Jan. 1, 2026, NFs will also turn over this function to LCAR. Hospitals will continue to complete and submit Level I screens to LCAR for inpatients being screened for NF placement.

There will be no changes for PASRR Level II evaluations, as these are already performed by Maximus under the current system.

For more information

To learn more about LCAR and find out about upcoming trainings, please visit the [Indiana Level of Care Assessment Representative \(LCAR\) website](#) at [inlcar.com](#).

For questions, contact the Indiana LCAR – Maximus Help Desk at 833-597-2777 or via email at INLCAR@maximus.com. (Note that emails submitted to the existing PASRR@fssa.IN.gov address will automatically be routed to this new address.)

To register to receive all Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) or Office of Medicaid and Policy (OMPP) updates, including upcoming trainings, please [subscribe for updates](#).

QUESTIONS?

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