



Council on Aging
of Southwestern Ohio

Answers on Aging

PASSPORT FACT SHEET



PASSPORT is Ohio's in-home alternative to nursing home care

Nursing homes are important – we need them. But most people don't want to go there before their time.

Annually, more than 3,000 people in southwest Ohio receive long-term care in their own homes through PASSPORT. This is a win-win for seniors and taxpayers.

On average, home care through PASSPORT costs taxpayers about \$1,100 a month per person, compared to \$4,800 for care in a Medicaid nursing home. Without PASSPORT, more older adults would be forced to leave their homes and enter nursing facilities.

Increasingly, PASSPORT has become a popular choice for seniors and families who want to have the choice to age in place - in their own homes. Statewide, enrollment in the program has increased by 460 percent in 15 years.

PASSPORT is Ohio's in-home alternative to nursing home care. It helps low-income older adults remain safe and independent in their homes. It can delay or prevent nursing home placement.

PASSPORT is provided by the state of Ohio through Council on Aging.

PASSPORT provides free or low-cost in-home care for people who:

- are age 60 or older
- are eligible for Medicaid
- need hands-on help with personal care, housekeeping, cooking or mobility

Services include: home-delivered meals, personal care, home medical equipment and transportation, to name a few.

You get a care manager who is an advocate for you - someone who has your best interests at heart. Your care manager will answer your questions, make sure you have the right services, and coordinate the care you may be receiving from family and friends.

Your care is free of charge, or set at an affordable level depending upon your income and assets.

Call (513) 721-1025, 1-800-252-0155 or visit us online at www.help4seniors.org to learn more.

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513-721-1025 or 800-252-0155 • www.help4seniors.org**

More About PASSPORT

PASSPORT is a Medicaid waiver program that started in 1987 to prevent unnecessary nursing home placement. PASSPORT stands for Pre-Admission Screening System Providing Options and Resources Today.

Services Provided by PASSPORT:

- Personal care (bathing, grooming)
- Homemaker service
- Meals on Wheels
- Minor home modification
- Adult day services
- Transportation
- Chore service
- Social work counseling
- Nutritional consultation
- Home medical equipment and supplies
- Emergency response system
- Independent living assistance
- Care management

To qualify for PASSPORT, you must:

- Be age 60 or older
- Be Medicaid eligible (low-income)
- Need skilled or intermediate care
- Be assured you can be cared for safely in a home - not institutional - setting
- Receive your doctor's approval for your care plan

Need temporary nursing home care?

If you're on PASSPORT, and require temporary nursing home care (up to 60 days), you can return to PASSPORT (and your home) without having to reapply.

"PASSPORT has been a great service for my mom, and me too. The home health aide calls me every day. She cleans, goes to the grocery and does the things that I needed to leave work to do. She's also a companion for my mom - someone for her to talk with when I can't be there... I'm a true believer in this program." ~ B. Watson

Signing up for PASSPORT:

After answering some questions on the telephone, you will be assigned an assessor who will come to your home to determine your eligibility and level of care.



You will be asked to show documents verifying your income, assets, household and medical expenses. Before the visit, you will receive a list of the information you will need to provide.

If you qualify, you will be assigned a care manager who will help you and your family prepare a service plan. Your doctor must approve this plan.

Praise for PASSPORT:

In an evaluation, Scripps Gerontology Center at Miami University concluded PASSPORT is *"cost-effective, appropriately targeted, quality-oriented, thoroughly monitored and consumer-responsive."*

Call today: (513) 721-1025

Southwestern Ohio's Area Agency on Aging Since 1974

Council on Aging is designated by the state of Ohio to serve the older adults of Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton and Warren counties. We are experts on aging with a variety of programs available as free and low-cost public services. **Our mission:** Enhance the lives of adults by assisting them to remain independent at home through a range of quality services.