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## **MEDICAID, STATE BY STATE**

The Arc is excited to announce a valuable new resource available at [www.thearc.org](http://www.thearc.org) to help guide people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families through the complexities of Medicaid benefits, services and supports.

The Medicaid Reference Desk offers detailed, state-by-state information about Medicaid benefits, a glossary of terms, answers to frequently asked questions, person-centered planning resources and a blog from The Arc's training specialist about issues related to Medicaid, self-advocacy and planning.

Medicaid is the largest source of financing for disabilities services in the United States. For people with disabilities and for those who provide their care, Medicaid serves as a valuable safety net. Often the only source of financial assistance for health care, Medicaid plays a critical role for people with disabilities in providing coverage and access to care. Medicaid is, however, extremely complicated. At least half of the funds for Medicaid programs come from the Federal government with the remainder coming from state funds. Federal law contains detailed requirements and limitations on eligibility, services, and financing. But, state law varies widely.

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