

# Traditional PCA or PCA Choice

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Personal Care Service consumers are required to receive services through a PCA provider agency enrolled with the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS.) There are two kinds of PCA provider options.

## Traditional PCA

Under Traditional PCA the provider agency (either a Personal Care Provider Organization, PCPO, or a Medicare-certified Home Health Agency) is responsible for:

- Finding, hiring, training, scheduling and firing your staff
- Finding back-up PCA staff
- Monitoring and evaluating PCA staff

## PCA Choice

Under PCA Choice you are responsible for:

- Finding, hiring, training, scheduling and firing your staff
- Finding back up PCA staff
- Monitoring and evaluating your staff
- Maintaining a written agreement with your PCA Choice provider agency
- Maintaining documentation of PCA tasks and actions
- Working with your QP to make sure your health and safety needs are met
- Developing your care plan, with help from your QP if needed

## Both Traditional and PCA Choice Provider Agencies:

- Complete criminal background checks on PCAs and QPs
- Ensure PCAs and QPs have completed required training
- Provide qualified professional supervision
- Pay and withhold taxes for PCAs and QPs
- Bill the State for completed services
- Maintain written agreements with clients, PCAs and responsible parties
- Maintain enrollment with the DHS

## Is PCA Choice right for me?

- Do I want the responsibility of finding and supervising my own staff?
- Do I want greater flexibility in scheduling PCAs?
- Do I have a back-up plan if my regular PCAs cannot work?
- Is it difficult to find PCAs in my region?
- Do I have friends, neighbors or family who could be my PCA?
- Do I want more control over my care?

Some consumers cannot use the PCA Choice option. These include people:

- On the Minnesota Restricted Recipient Program
- Who have committed abuse or fraudulent billing
- Whose health and safety may be jeopardized