



<b>Policy Number:</b> SE4.131	<b>Policy Section:</b> Supports and Services	<b>Effective:</b> November 12, 2007 <b>Amended:</b> November 24, 2016
<b>Title:</b> Request for Service Policy		<b>Executive Sponsor:</b> Vice President, Regional Operations

## 1. PURPOSE

This policy provides direction for CLBC staff about one of five components of resource allocation – documenting and prioritizing requests for service.

It is designed to be used in concert with the *Resource Allocation Policy* and the *Individual Support Planning Policy*. Together these policies, and related tools, support an integrated approach to informed, fair, and consistent decision-making about the type and amount of service(s) funded by CLBC for eligible individuals.

## 2. DEFINITIONS

**Guide to Support Allocation (GSA):** An electronic tool in PARIS used by CLBC to determine an individual’s current disability-related need.

**Individual:** A person 19 years of age or older who is eligible for CLBC services, as described in the *Eligibility for CLBC Supports and Services Policy*.

**Individual Support Plan:** A document that includes information about an individual’s goals and support requirements, and the funding and services identified to meet them, as outlined in the *Individual Support Planning Policy*.

**PARIS:** The CLBC electronic personal information management system.

**Planning Registry:** A report that lists requests for service for individuals and youth that are not currently needed but are required in the future.

**Request for Service List (RFSL):** A report that identifies current requests for service from individuals and/or their families.

**Support Network:** Friends, family and/or community members who provide personal support, advocacy and/or help with monitoring services and who have reciprocal relationships with individuals.

**Target Start Date:** The date that the individual and/or family want the service to start.

**Youth:** A person who is 16 years of age or over, but under the age of 19.

### 3. POLICY

**3.1** An individual and their family or support network may make a request for CLBC-funded service verbally, in writing, or as part of an individual support plan. CLBC records and documents every request for service in a consistent and fair way. A request for service includes the type of service(s) CLBC may provide for an individual, determined as outlined in the *Resource Allocation Policy*.

**3.2** CLBC records requests for service on the individual's record in PARIS. Requests for service form the Request for Service List and the Planning Registry. The 'target start date' is the same as the date that the service is recorded when the individual and their family request the service to start right away. See section 3.6 for recording future requests for service, which become part of the Planning Registry.

The Request for Service List report is maintained in order of priority, based on urgency of need, as determined using the *Request for Service Priority Tool*. When more than one individual has equal priority, the date of service request determines the order in which funding is approved.

**3.3** Individuals with the greatest urgency and those receiving no support at all have a higher priority than those already receiving services and requesting new or enhanced services.

**3.4** CLBC updates an individual's request for service in response to any new information about an individual's circumstances that could affect their urgency of need.

**3.5** Where an individual requires services to be put in place to respond to an emergency, response to the person is a priority and completing the documentation of the request for service may be delayed. CLBC documents the request for service in PARIS as soon as is possible following the implementation of services for emergency situations.

**3.6** CLBC records requests for service that are not immediately needed, but are required in the future, including those from transitioning youth who will be eligible for CLBC adult services. If the 'target start date' is in the future, the request becomes part of the Planning Registry. CLBC uses the Planning Registry for determining future resource planning needs.

**3.7** CLBC communicates with individuals and families regularly regarding their requests for service including explaining when CLBC funded services are likely to be provided.

## 4. PROCEDURES

### 4.1 Facilitators:

- a) Complete the *Request for Service Priority Tool Screen* in PARIS after the type and amount of service(s) CLBC may provide has been determined, as outlined in the *Resource Allocation Policy*. Facilitators refer to the *Resource Allocation: A Practice Guide for Facilitators* and the *Guide to the Request for Service Priority Tool* for detailed directions
- b) Review required information including:
  - Individual support plan (if available)
  - Conversations with the individual and their family or support network
  - Individual's PARIS record and other relevant documentation
  - Information from other involved professionals and current service provider
- c) Communicate the results to the individual and their family or support network. Follow-up with a letter that:
  - Acknowledges the nature and date of the request(s) for service
  - Confirms that their request has been recorded
  - Provides an estimated date when CLBC services will likely be available
  - Encourages them to keep CLBC informed of changing events that could impact their need for CLBC-funded supports
  - Suggests alternative options while waiting for CLBC funded supports, if applicable
  - Advises that an individual support plan may need to be developed or updated in the future as outlined in the *Individual Support Planning Policy*
- d) Update the request for service and/or *Request for Service Priority Tool* in PARIS, and communicate any change to the individual and their family or support network whenever:
  - New information is provided that may affect the priority of a request for service
  - CLBC begins providing some service(s) and this affects the urgency of need for other requested service(s)
  - An individual who already has a documented request for service moves into a new service area. In this case, facilitators reflect changing circumstances and opportunities in the new community, and maintain the original date of the service request
  - An individual and their family ask for a request for service to be withdrawn or changed, due to a change in circumstances
- e) Refer an emergency request for service to the Integrated Service Manager.
- f) Where emergency funding is expected to be ongoing, complete planning follow-up within four months of initiation of emergency funding.
- g) When the funding or service requested is available, contact the individual and family to confirm that they will accept the offer.

## 4.2 Analysts:

- a) As funding becomes available, review the Request for Service List and Planning Registry in collaboration with the facilitator to contribute to budget management decisions and planning processes consistent with regional workflows.
- b) Cancel a request for service if the request is withdrawn by the individual or family.

## 4.3 Integrated Service Managers :

- a) Ensure facilitators are trained in applying this policy, supporting them, in particular, to communicate effectively with individuals and families or support networks
- b) Facilitate solutions to issues or concerns raised by individuals and families or support networks
- c) Use the Request for Service List and the Planning Registry to support proactive budget and resource development planning
- d) Confirm requirement for emergency funding
- e) Approve up to six months funding for service on an emergency basis for an individual who is in an extenuating, urgent or critical situation requiring immediate service provision
- f) When an emergency service is requested to be ongoing, begin the procurement of new services following individual support plan completion. If the plan is not completed within four months of the initiation of services, request the Director of Regional Operations approve up to a maximum of a three-month extension of emergency services

## 5. DOCUMENTATION

- 5.1 Facilitators and analysts are responsible for documenting their decisions in PARIS, using a *Request for Service Note* and the *Request for Service Priority Tool Screen*.

## 6. PRACTICE

- 6.1 Consistent, professional practice is important in managing requests for service. Fair decision-making requires the administration of technical tools, the application of professional judgement, and excellent communication. Facilitators are expected to be familiar with and follow the procedural and practice guidance in the *Resource Allocation: A Practice Guide for Facilitators*, and to seek help from an Integrated Service Manager or a Guide to Support Allocation Lead as required.

## 7. REFERENCES

Guide to the Request for Service Priority Tool  
Information for Families about Getting CLBC Services  
Information for Families Requesting CLBC Services  
Information for Families – Planning  
Individual Support Planning Policy  
Resource Allocation Policy  
Resource Allocation: A Practice Guide for Facilitators  
Request for Service Priority Tool