

TMG News and Notes:

Roles of Agencies Partnering with People in the IRIS Program

Question:

I'm confused by the different agencies that I encounter in the IRIS program. Can you tell me what each does?

Answer:

Of course! We get this question a lot.

First, it's important to know that **IRIS** is a State of Wisconsin long-term care program. The state contracts with a number of experienced agencies to help them do the day-to-day work for the program. Here's a quick rundown of the agencies you will hear about:

The Aging and Disability Resource Center, or **ADRC**, is where many people first hear about IRIS. Your local ADRC is an unbiased source of information on programs, services, and local supports available to people in your community.

If the ADRC determines you are eligible for Medicaid long-term care services, and you decide to enroll in IRIS, you'll then choose an IRIS Consultant Agency, or **ICA**. An IRIS Consultant Agency focuses on partnering with people to self-direct their supports and services; connecting people to resources in their community; and helping the person maintain their eligibility year to year. The TMG IRIS Consultant Agency operates in all Wisconsin counties where IRIS is available. Some Wisconsin counties also have another ICA option available.

Once you start in IRIS, you'll also partner with a Fiscal Employer Agent, or **FEA**. The FEA works with you to pay the workers you hire and agencies you choose to provide your supports.

Even though all of these organizations are part of your IRIS experience, they are **independent and unrelated** to each other.

Additional Resources on this Topic:

- [TMG News and Notes](#)
- [Your IRIS Roadmap](#)
- [Enrolling in IRIS](#)
- [Find your nearest ADRC](#)