

When answering why a waiver of the four-person limit is **therapeutically beneficial or financially necessary** to provide housing for individuals with disabilities, the following information may be of use:

1. A waiver is financially necessary if the costs associated with running your supportive house exceed the income that you would receive from four individuals with financial resources that are typical of the people you serve. Individuals with disabilities often have limited resources based on their employment status and reliance on public benefits, and they cannot afford to live in the community unless they are permitted to live with a group of individuals who can share the cost of shelter, food and other necessities. You should describe the cost of the services you provide to your residents, the income you receive to pay for those services and why five or more residents are needed to enable you to cover those costs.
2. An increase in the number of residents is therapeutically beneficial if your house requires a certain number of individuals living together to provide the personal relationships and emotional support that are needed to improve and sustain the health of your residents. You should describe the informal communications and gatherings or other formal house meetings that are an essential part of aiding the individuals you assist and explain why it is important to have more than four individuals to ensure that level of engagement.
3. In order to obtain a reasonable accommodation, it is not necessary to prove that increasing the number of residents is both therapeutically beneficial and financially necessary. Providing information on both factors may make it more likely that you'll be granted a waiver.
4. The space provided on page 12 of the application may not be sufficient. If necessary, you may provide an answer on a separate sheet and attach it to the application.