



Communicating with the Community

In an effort to better communicate with and provide community resources to individuals, families and supporters, OID offers:

- A Key Communicator email distribution list through which information about the ID system, resources and related events are shared.
- OID FactSheets to provide information about the ID service system. Topics include eligibility, registration, planning, types of services and using services.
- OID Outreach to share information with anyone who wants to learn more about services for people with an intellectual disability. Staff is available to provide presentations or host information tables. We will share details regarding supports through the Allegheny County DHS and OID as well as relevant community resources.
- OID and ID Service System information on the DHS website includes Key Communicator sign up details, current FactSheets, and several links to information and websites regarding the ID service system.

www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/ID

DHS is responsible for providing and administering publicly funded human services to Allegheny County residents.

DHS Principles

All services will be:

- High quality, comprehensive and accessible.
- Individualized and designed to be respectful of the unique cultural characteristics of each individual and/or community.
- Integrated and offered through a team approach that recognizes the capacity of individuals and families to identify their own strengths, needs and goals; create relationships and natural supports; and take steps necessary to accomplish these goals.



Office of Intellectual Disability

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DHS funding information is available at
www.alleghenycounty.us/Human-Services/About.aspx

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Allegheny County
Department of Human Services
Office of Intellectual Disability (OID)



The Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Intellectual Disability (OID) assists Allegheny County residents with an intellectual disability (formerly mental retardation) in receiving services.



Eligibility

In order for a person to be eligible for services through OID, documentation must show that the person meets criteria for registration. This includes that the following were present before their 22nd birthday:

- A diagnosis of intellectual disability (ID)
 - that shows an IQ of 70 or below
 - that includes a statement of mild, moderate or severe/profound
- Adaptive functioning limitations in at least two of the 11 considered areas

For eligibility requirements for preschool children call OID at 412-253-1250.

How to Get Started

The registration process starts with a call to the OID Intake and Registration Team at 412-253-1250. After OID verifies eligibility, we will schedule a date, time and place to meet.

At this meeting we will:

- Have a conversation about the values and goals important to the person
- Complete required documents
- Share supports coordination organization choices

Supports Coordination (Ages 3 years and older)

Everyone registered with OID receives supports coordination and there is no waiting list for this service. Supports coordinators are assigned to individuals by the Supports Coordination Organization (SCO) they choose. The job of the supports coordinator (SC) is to locate, coordinate and monitor services and supports. The SC can be helpful in finding resources and supports. It's important that a positive working relationship be developed.

Person-Centered Planning

The SC meets with the individual, along with those they wish to invite, to develop a person-centered Individual Support Plan (ISP). Through this collaboration, an ISP will be written that includes paid, natural (unpaid/friends and family) and community supports and services.

Individual Support Plans, supports and services will reflect and be guided by Everyday Lives, the core philosophy of the Pennsylvania Office of Developmental Programs (ODP). The components of Everyday Lives include safety, quality, relationships and community inclusion. Learn more on the PA ODP Consulting website: www.odpconsulting.net/.

The Time to Plan is Now

It is important to register with OID and start working with an SC even if services are not currently needed. Planning and documentation is essential for everyone.

Especially important is for eligible youth, ages 14 to 21 years, to register with OID. Supports coordinators can be vital members of transition teams during this time of preparation for life after high school. Developing a strong ISP and documenting student's needs in a timely way allows OID to plan for these transition-age youth most effectively.

More generally, it is critical for all registered individuals to engage in planning for future needs with their SC. Individuals identified with an emergency need for ID-funded services can request a Consolidated or Person- /Family-Directed Support (PFD) waiver. This is done through documentation completed with their SC. These waivers can provide funding for home- and community-based services such as employment supports, habilitation supports and respite.

There is a waiting list for the Consolidated and PFD waivers.