



# FactSheet:

## ID Waiver Services, Providers and Delivery

### DHS Office of Intellectual Disability

*Intellectual Disability (ID) Waiver funding is a combination of state and federal dollars. The funding is regulated on the state level by the Pennsylvania Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) and on the federal level by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Any service that is paid for using Intellectual Disability Waiver funding must follow waiver service guidelines as described in the 2012 Individual Support Plan (ISP) Manual and be provided by a contracted ID Service Provider. The following information will describe ID Waiver Service guidelines and Service Providers and how to access them. Information on how those services may be delivered is also included.*

#### **What is an ID waiver service ?**

ID Waiver services are the specific services that can be funded with ID waiver funding. The 2012 Individual Support Plan (ISP) Manual describes how, when, where, and by whom a service that is paid for with ID Waiver Funding must be provided.

#### **Who decides what the waiver services are and what the guidelines regarding them are?**

ODP writes the waiver service guidelines to make sure that they follow regulations set up by CMS.

#### **Where can I find information on waiver services?**

You can read more by visiting ODP Consulting at [www.ODPConsulting.net](http://www.ODPConsulting.net) If you do not have access to the internet, you can ask your Supports Coordinator for a copy of the *ISP Manual*.

#### **Who can provide services?**

Any service that is paid for with ID Waiver Funding must be provided by a contracted willing and qualified ID Service Provider. This means that the agency receiving payment must be qualified and authorized by the state of Pennsylvania to provide these services.

#### **How do I find information about Service Providers?**

You can find information about different providers who are contracted to provide services in Allegheny County in a few of different ways:

- By visiting the HCSIS SSD at [www.hcsis.state.pa.us/hcsis-ssd/pgm/asp/prhom.asp](http://www.hcsis.state.pa.us/hcsis-ssd/pgm/asp/prhom.asp) and clicking on "Providers"
- By visiting the Pa Department of Human Services (formerly DPW) at [www.dhs.state.pa.us/fordisabilityservices/intellectualdisabilitiesservices/howtochooseanintellectualdisabilitiesprovider/index.htm](http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/fordisabilityservices/intellectualdisabilitiesservices/howtochooseanintellectualdisabilitiesprovider/index.htm)
- By speaking with your Supports Coordinator (SC)
- By speaking to the providers directly to ask them questions about your own situation

## How do I choose a Service Provider?

Choosing a Service Provider is an important decision. You should work very closely with your SC during this process. Your SC will be able to help you set up tours and ask questions about your own unique needs. Some things you may want to ask a potential Service Provider are:

- How long have you been providing services?
- What are the qualifications of your staff members? Can I meet some of them?
- What kind of training do you offer your staff?
- How long do your staff members usually work for you (is there high turnover)?
- Will you be able to meet my or my loved one's nutritional needs?
- Will you be able to meet my or my loved one's medical needs?
- What hours are your services available?
- What kind of transportation is needed to be able to use your services?
- What kind of recreational opportunities do you offer?

When touring a Provider's site you may want to consider:

- Is the area clean and safe?
- Will I get along with the other individuals here?
- Can they meet my special accommodations?
- Are they able to meet my communication needs?
- Do I feel comfortable here?

## How are services delivered?

Traditionally services are managed and delivered by provider agencies, often through Direct Support Professionals (DSP). However, you may choose to take a more active role in managing your services and provider staff through the Participant Directed Services (PDS)-Financial Management Services (FMS) model. For details about PDS-FMS, including what services are included and the responsibilities of the participant, access all details, forms, related ODP Bulletins and the PA Guide to Participant-Directed Services at [www.odpconsulting.net/topic-info/participant-directed-services/](http://www.odpconsulting.net/topic-info/participant-directed-services/)

## Bulletin information

For additional information from ODP, please refer to the following bulletins on the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services website

- 00-12-05: Individual Support Plans

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For more information regarding OID, including additional FactSheets visit <http://alleghenycounty.us/Human-Services/Programs-Services/Disabilities/Intellectual-Disability.aspx>