

Medicaid Waivers

What is a Waiver?

- A waiver is a way that Medicaid can pay for services to keep an individual with a developmental disability in their home so he/she does not have to move into an Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded, or ICFMR.
- A home is where a person chooses to live. This could be with family or on their own with supports.
- Each Waiver provides different services, which may include nursing care, homemaker/personal care, home-delivered meals, respite care, adult day care, supported employment services, environmental accessibility and adaptations, emergency response systems, and/or supplemental transportation.

Who is Eligible to Receive a Waiver?

- The individual applying for a waiver must be Medicaid eligible.
- An assessment is completed to determine if the County Board recommends that they have the level of care needed to apply for a waiver. If the County Board cannot recommend the needed level of care, a face to face interview can be conducted by Job and Family Services.
- If the waiver eligibility requirements are met, the SSA can assist with applying for Medicaid (if needed) and also completing the waiver packet required for enrollment. The waiver packet is then sent to Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.
- The Eligibility Unit at the Ohio Department of DD Division of Medicaid Administration and Development then reviews the information and determines an individual's eligibility to receive waiver services.
- A Service and Support Administrator with the County Board will then develop an Individual Service Plan (ISP) through a team process to identify the services that the waiver will provide.

What Kinds of Waivers are Awarded?

- The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (ODMRDD) administers two waivers: the Individual Options (IO) and the Level One (Lv1).
- The Lv1 Waiver: A person who receives a Level One Waiver can have up to \$5,000 in support services per the individual's span year.
- With an IO waiver, the amount of money that an individual can use per span year is determined through an assessment tool called the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Profile (ODDP). This assessment is based upon the individual's needs.

How are Waivers Funded and Awarded?

- County Boards of Developmental Disabilities request waivers from the Ohio Department of DD based on the financial resources for that county. Waivers services are funded by federal, state and local dollars.
- Each County Board establishes waiting lists when there are not enough resources to meet the needs of everyone requesting services. Once resources become available, County Boards must follow state waiting list rules when awaiting awards.
- At least annually, the County Board will review an individual's place on the waiting list and will make sure that services are still desired.
- If you would like to learn more about waiver services or think you would like to be on our waiting list, contact your SSA at 937-498-4229. The Ohio Department of DD's website also has available more in-depth publications on both the Level 1 and IO Waivers.
<http://odmrdd.state.oh.us/publications/public.htm>