

## SENIOR COMMUNITY INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES PROGRAM (SCILS)

In collaboration with the Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CBVI), DDS now is administering the SCILS program. SCILS matches seniors that have significant vision impairment with caring compassionate volunteers. These volunteers provide support, assistance and friendship to participants living in the community. Participants can expect their volunteer to spend one to two hours weekly, assisting with various activities such as: reading the mail, running errands, driving to medical appointments, writing letters, helping with grocery shopping and companionship.

## PERSONAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES PROGRAM (PASP)

The Personal Assistance Services Program (PASP) is a supplemental, personal care program designed for New Jersey residents, ages 18 to 70, who have a permanent physical disability; are capable of directing their own services; and are either employed, preparing for employment, involved in community volunteer work, or attending school. PASP allows consumers to receive up to 40 hours of service per week, therefore enabling them to maintain their independence in the community. Personal assistants help with such tasks as light housekeeping, bathing, dressing, meal preparation, shopping, driving or using public transportation.

## PERSONAL PREFERENCE PROGRAM (PPP): NJ CASH AND COUNSELING PROGRAM

This service allows Medicaid recipients who are eligible for Medicaid PCA services to direct their own care. Through use of a monthly cash allowance, participants work with a consultant to develop a cash management plan by which they decide the services needed and the individuals and/or agencies to provide the identified services. The program requires greater consumer responsibility but offers participants greater control, flexibility and choice.

## REALIGNMENT OF SELF DETERMINATION

DDS has been assigned the project of realigning the Self Determination program in accordance with New Jersey's recently approved Comprehensive Medicaid Waiver.

## DISABILITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS INITIATIVES

This project involves health promotion and prevention of secondary conditions for people with disabilities. In addition, it works to improve state surveillance activities, conduct health promotion interventions and facilitate partnerships between state and research or service-based agencies.

## BENEFITS TO WORK CALCULATOR

This website is a helpful tool to show how Social Security benefits may change if you take a job. This site is designed to assist job seekers aged 18 to 64. To access the calculator, go to [www.njdb101.org](http://www.njdb101.org).

## EMPLOYMENT FIRST TOOL KIT

Need more information on disability employment in NJ? Visit: <http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/disabilityemployment.html>

**Chris Christie, Governor**  
**Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor**  
State of New Jersey

**Jennifer Velez, Commissioner**  
Department of Human Services

**Joseph M. Amoroso, Director**  
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New Jersey



State of New Jersey  
Department of  
Human Services

**DIVISION OF  
DISABILITY  
SERVICES**



# DIVISION OF DISABILITY SERVICES (DDS)

## MISSION STATEMENT

The New Jersey Department of Human Services' Division of Disability Services promotes and facilitates the maximum independence and participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of community life through active information exchange and the provision of community services. DDS supports and fosters coordination and cooperation among all government agencies.

## OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE SERVICES

*"The first place to call for disability-related information"*

## INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICES

The Division of Disability Services is the single point of entry for all people seeking disability related information in New Jersey. Certified Information and Referral Specialists are available to confidentially discuss issues, to provide information, to assist with problem solving, and to refer individuals to appropriate agencies or services. Use of a customized database allows for calls to be tracked and information to be stored for quality customer service.

## DDD/DDS CASE MANAGEMENT COLLABORATION

Effective January 2, 2013, individuals under the age of 21, formerly managed by the Division of Developmental Disabilities but assigned to DDS' Office of Information and Assistance Services, were transferred to the Division of Children and Families' Children's System of Care. However, at this time, DDS still remains the primary contact for some individuals under DDD services.

## TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY FUND

The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Fund provides New Jersey residents who have survived a traumatic brain injury the opportunity to access the brain injury related services and supports they need to live in the community. The Fund purchases supports and services to foster independence and maximize quality of life. This Fund is used where insurance, personal resources, and/or public programs are unavailable to meet the needs of the applicant. A portion of the Fund is also used to support public education, outreach, and prevention activities related to TBI.

## OFFICE OF HOME AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Office of Home and Community Services is responsible for the administration of three Medicaid Waiver Programs serving people with disabilities and is assisting with the transition of Medicaid Personal Care Assistant (PCA) Services to the managed health care model.

## TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI) WAIVER

The TBI Waiver serves people between 21 and 64 who have acquired a brain injury. People in the program receive full Medicaid benefits plus additional services including case management, structured day program, neuropsychology, community residential services, night supervision, respite care and cognitive therapy.

## AIDS COMMUNITY CARE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (ACCAP) WAIVER

The ACCAP Waiver serves people with AIDS of any age and children up to age 13 who are HIV positive. It provides full Medicaid benefits plus case management, private-duty nursing, medical day care, expanded personal care assistant services, certain narcotic and drug abuse treatments at home and hospice care.

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (CRPD) WAIVER

All individuals served under this waiver must meet, at a minimum, the "nursing facility level of care," be

financially eligible for Medicaid waiver coverage, and require the services offered under the waiver. The waiver is open to individuals with disabilities of all ages. Individuals in the CRPD Waiver Program receive case management for all Medicaid State Plan services. Individuals meeting specific clinical criteria can receive private duty nursing services of up to 16 hours per day.

## MEDICAID PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANT (PCA) SERVICES

Personal Care Assistant Services (PCA) are available statewide and reimbursed by the New Jersey Medicaid Program for adults and children who are eligible for Medicaid services in the community. The purpose of personal care is to accommodate long-term chronic care as provided under Medicaid's home health program. PCA services are health-related tasks performed by qualified staff in an eligible beneficiary's home or workplace, not to exceed 40 hours per week, based on clinical assessment and prior authorization. DDS is no longer administering this program directly but is assisting program recipients with the transition to managed health care and technical assistance.

## COMMUNITY DISCHARGE INITIATIVE

DDS has expanded the mission of the Office of Home and Community Services to include community discharge. Staff will assist individuals who have expressed a desire to return to the community to make attainable discharge plans and identify supports and resources.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

### NJ WORKABILITY

The WorkAbility program offers people with disabilities who are working, and whose income would otherwise make them ineligible for Medicaid, the opportunity to pay a small premium and receive full NJ Medicaid coverage. People with disabilities who are employed and are between the ages of 16 to 64 can qualify for the program with an annual gross earned income of up to approximately \$58,236.