



Division Update for Individuals, Families and Providers

July 24, 2025

Agenda

- Next DDD Update Webinar
- Federal Update
- Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Budget
- The Boggs Center – Workforce Development Training Opportunities
- National Core Indicators (NCI) Surveys
- VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition
- The Boggs Center – Share Your Story!
- NJ Election 2025
- Resources

Next DDD Update Webinar

- August DDD Update Webinar:
 - Thursday, August 28, 2025 – 10:30 am
 - [Register for August Webinar](#)
- The 2025 schedule of DDD Update Webinars, including registration links, is available on the Division's [Public Update Meetings](#) webpage

Federal Update

- H.R. 1 (“One Big Beautiful Bill) has passed.
- Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services’ Assistant Commissioner Greg Woods provided a high level overview at the July 17, 2025 Medical Assistance Advisory Council (MAAC) Meeting about its impact to the NJ Medicaid system.
- The presentation slide deck and recording are found on the [Medical Assistance Advisory Council \(MAAC\)](#) web page, under the July 17, 2025 date.



FY26 DDD Budget

- The approved FY26 State Budget adds about \$164M to the DDD budget. Areas of growth include:
 - January 1, 2026: DSP and Supervisor Wage Increase of about .50 cents an hour – \$9.1M
 - Restoration of contracted services; out-of-state provider increase – \$3.9M
 - Agency with Choice Per-Member, Per-Month (PMPM) rate increase – \$860,000
 - One-time increases – \$600,000
 - Legislative oversight – \$450,000
 - Trend – \$149M

The Boggs Center – Workforce Development Training Opportunities

- The Boggs Center on Disability and Human Development is collaborating with The University of Minnesota's Institute on Community Integration's Direct Support Workforce Solutions on two initiatives:
 - **DSP Workforce Recruitment and Retention Strategies Series** – a 10-part learning series for provider agency leaders (directors, program directors, HR staff, training staff, etc.)
 - **Frontline Supervisor Training Program** – a 9-month Frontline Supervisor Training Program focused on developing knowledge, skills, and abilities based on the National Frontline Supervisor competency set.




Direct Support **Workforce Solutions**

INSTITUTE on COMMUNITY INTEGRATION | UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

DSP Workforce Recruitment and Retention Strategies Series

10 Two-Part Sessions: One Interactive Webinar + One Learning Collaborative per topic

- *May choose which sessions to register for based on need and interest.*
- *Space is limited; must participate in both the webinar and related learning collaborative to receive a certificate of completion.*
- View topics, dates, and register under *Workforce Development & Frontline Supervisors* on [The Boggs Center Online Registration](#) page.



DSP WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION STRATEGIES SERIES

About the Series

The Boggs Center is collaborating with the University of Minnesota, Institute on Community Integration's Direct Support Workforce Solutions to bring a 10-part learning series for service provider agency leaders to New Jersey. Through this series, experts in the field will provide presentations and guided learning focused on 10 strategies essential to effective Direct Support Professional Recruitment and Retention. Each topic will be presented across two sessions, the first being an engaging presentation. The second, taking place a week later, will be a facilitated Learning Forum to allow for more questions and answers, collective idea sharing, and networking. Certificates of Attendance will be provided to those who complete **both days** of the session.

Space is limited. Interested professionals within the target audience must register by topic. We ask that those registering mark their calendars and plan to attend due to demand and space limits.


Target Audience

Service provider leadership, including: Directors, Program Directors, HR Staff, and Training Department Staff

Have questions?

Email Colleen McLaughlin (colleen.mclaughlin@rutgers.edu) and Nicole Warren (nicole.l.warren@rutgers.edu) with any questions you may have.

Scan or click to register through The Boggs Center's Online Registration System under the "Workforce Development & Frontline Supervisors" tab.



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Frontline Supervisor Training Program

Applications from Frontline Supervisors working at NJ DDD Service Provider Agencies are being accepted through August 8. Thirty (30) will be accepted for participation.

Series runs September 17, 2025 – May 13, 2026

Information, Schedule, and Application available at: [Frontline Supervisor Training Application Form](#)

Training Series Incorporates:

- 2 In-Person Learning Sessions (@The Boggs Center, New Brunswick, NJ)
- 11 Virtual Learning Sessions
- Online Self-Paced Learning Assignments using the CDS College of Frontline Supervision and Management
- Certificate Recognition Ceremony (During 2nd In-Person Session)
- 1 Session with the participating FLSs' and related leadership – to support implementation

Applicants Must:

- Have the support of their employing agency to participate in all sessions
- Participate fully at a time/place conducive to learning and participation
- Complete assignments
- Commit to participating in the full series



Information Sessions for Provider Leadership about the Frontline Supervisor Training Program

July 29, 2025, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

[Register Now for July 29 Information Session](#)

July 31, 2025, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

[Register Now for July 31 Information Session](#)

After registering, the person will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Questions? Contact:

- colleen.mclaughlin@rutgers.edu
- nicole.l.warren@rutgers.edu

FRONTLINE SUPERVISOR TRAINING PROGRAM



About the Program

The Boggs Center on Disability and Human Development is collaborating with Direct Support Workforce Solutions at the University of Minnesota's Institute on Community Integration (ICI) to offer a 9-month Frontline Supervisor Training Program focused on developing knowledge, skills, and abilities based on the National Frontline Supervisor competency set.

The program is a blended learning model which combines online, asynchronous lessons from the College of Direct Support with monthly interactive live online and in-person training sessions delivered by Direct Support Workforce Solutions.

Interested Frontline Supervisors must apply online by **August 8, 2025** to be considered for the program. Full participation, with agency support, is required.

Space is limited and acceptance will be determined based on the number of applicants. Applicants will be notified of acceptance by August 30, 2025.

Target Audience

Frontline Supervisors working for DDD provider agencies in New Jersey

Have questions?

Email Colleen McLaughlin (colleen.mclaughlin@rutgers.edu) and Nicole Warren (nicole.l.warren@rutgers.edu) with any questions you may have.

Scan or click the QR code to learn more and apply.



NCI[®]-IDD State of the Workforce Survey



- National Core Indicators[®] - Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (NCI[®]-IDD) State of the Workforce Survey
 - Invitations emailed to eligible providers March 2025 (to email address on file in iRecord)
 - Providers – please contact DDD.NCI@dhs.nj.gov if your agency did not receive the invitation
 - **Deadline extended to July 31, 2025!**

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

UPDATED! Plan Revision Guidance for Support Coordinators

- This [SC Plan Revision Guidance](#) (dated July 10, 2025) includes guidance related to individuals in Cohorts 4a and 5 and replaces the previous guidance released June 4, 2025.

UPDATED! FI Transition Update for Everyone

- This [FI Transition Update](#) (dated July 10, 2025) includes:
- Information about Cohort 4a
- Restoration of Rollover Units Request Process
- A reminder to EVERYONE assigned to a Cohort to initiate their enrollment as soon as possible.

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

Acumen Enrollment Window for Cohorts 4a and 5 is **July 7 – August 1**

- **Cohort 4a** – consists of individuals who have a vendor service with PPL as the FI in their plan (and no SDEs) but were not included in Cohorts 1-4 for a variety of reasons (including many who had added a PPL vendor service to their plan after cohorts were assigned).
- **Cohort 5** – consists of individuals who may currently have/recently had one or more SDEs enrolled with and paid by PPL (with or without PPL vendor services).
 - For individuals in Cohort 5 with one or more active SDEs, the following must initiate their Acumen enrollment as soon as possible:
 - Individual/Authorized Representative
 - Employer of Record
 - Self-Directed Employees
 - Vendors

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

Scenario 1 – *I have a Self-Directed Employee (SDE) with PPL but I was not assigned to a cohort.*

Scenario 2 – *I was referred to PPL to hire an SDE but the process is still ongoing and I do not yet have an active SDE through PPL.*

If Scenario 1 or 2 applies to me, can I just enroll now with Acumen to be ready to transition when the time comes?

NO!

- At this time, Acumen only has demographic files for individuals assigned to one of the cohorts.
- If Scenario 1 or 2 above applies to you and you try to enroll through Acumen's Electronic Enrollment System (EES), the system will not recognize any information you enter and it will generate an error message.
- Once an error message is generated, you will not be able to proceed with enrollment (now or at a later date) until you notify Acumen and they purge your enrollment attempt and reset the system.

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

- What does it mean that, after attempting to enroll online with Acumen, I got the error message below, which states:

“Our records indicate that we have not yet received an Authorization Form for your client. Please contact your case worker and request that they send us the Authorization Form as soon as possible. Once received, we will process it and you may proceed with the enrollment process.”

EmployerTest AuthTest

[Manage Clients](#)

Thank you for choosing Acumen as your Fiscal Agent Partner.

Our records indicate that we have not received an Authorization Form for your Client. Please contact your case worker and request that they send us the Authorization Form as soon as possible. Once received, we will process it and you may proceed with the enrollment process.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at (877) 211-3738 or enrollment@acumen2.net.

Thank you,

Acumen Fiscal Agent

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

- If you try to enroll through the Acumen EES and get an error message advising you to get an “Authorization Form” from your “case worker,” it means that one of the following has occurred:
 - 1) **You are not in a cohort**, which means Acumen does not have your demographics file and therefore the system does not recognize the information you entered.
 - 2) **You are in a cohort**, but the information you entered does not match the information in the demographics file Acumen has for you, and therefore the system does not recognize the information you entered.
- In either case, ***please disregard the direction to “get an Authorization Form” and instead contact Acumen at*** Acumen at 848-400-5903 or email enrollment-nj@acumen2.net to schedule an enrollment appointment with a NJ Agent.

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

Plan Revision Timeline

Acumen Enrollment	Cohort	Plan-Revision Approval End Date (last date a revised plan can be approved)	Last Date SC can add a new PPL vendor service	Service End Date for current PPL service	Acumen Go-Live Date (service start date for new Acumen service)
Open Now For ALL Cohorts	Combined Cohorts 1-4	July 21	CANNOT ADD	July 30	July 31
	Cohort 4a	August 1	August 4	August 10	August 11
	Cohort 5	TBD	TBD	TBD	September 14

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

- Acumen and DDD are continuing to host weekly Transition Update and Q&A Webinars on Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m.
- No registration required – just click to join.

Acumen Transition Update and Q&A Webinars – all dates are 1 – 2 p.m.

Thursday, July 24 [JOIN NOW: July 24 Acumen Transition Update and Q&A](#)

Thursday, July 31 [JOIN NOW: July 31 Acumen Transition Update and Q&A](#)

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

Status of Completed Acumen Enrollments and Approved Plan Revisions as of 07/23/2025

Cohort	Individuals in Cohort	Completed Enrollments	Not Completed Enrollments	# of Prior Authorizations Approved
Cohorts 1-4	8,648	3,903	4,745	5,473
Cohort 4a	446	62	384	61
Cohort 5	6,282	48	6,234	48

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

For the most up-to-date information, please visit:

[Acumen-New Jersey](#)

- Training Materials (How to enroll, How to access DCI web portal, How to submit hours and invoices, etc.)
- Information for: Employers/Authorized Representatives, Self-Directed Employees, Vendors, Support Coordinators, Supports Brokers

[DDD | 2025 Fiscal Intermediary Transition \(PPL to Acumen\)](#)

- Transition Updates
- Transition FAQ
- Support Coordination Guidance

The Boggs Center – Share Your Story!

- [The Boggs Center on Disability and Human Development](#), New Jersey's federally designated University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD), partners with and supports DDD on a variety of projects and is a critical resource for New Jersey State government, provider agencies, individuals with IDD and their families and caregivers.
- The FY2026 [federal budget proposed by the President](#) calls for the elimination of UCEDDs nationwide, including The Boggs Center.
- If The Boggs Center has made a difference in your life, please take a moment to [share your story](#), which will be used to educate policymakers about the impact of their work.



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on Disability and Human Development**

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NJ Election 2025

2025 Dates to Remember

- **September 20:** Mailing of Mail-In Ballots for General Election Begins
- **October 14:** Voter Registration Deadline for General Election
- **October 25 – November 2: Early Voting Period**
- **October 28:** Deadline to apply for a Mail-In Ballot by Mail for General Election
- **November 3 (by 3 p.m.):** Deadline for In-Person Mail-In Ballot Applications for General Election
- **November 4: General Election Day**

Are You Registered to Vote?

- [Voter Search Tool](#) – to find out if you are registered to vote
- [Register to Vote](#) – to register to vote online
- [Voter Registration Paper Applications](#) – to download and print a paper register-to-vote application

Resources

- [NJ Gubernatorial Candidates' Positions Related to Disability Issues](#)
 - From the NJ Council on Developmental Disabilities (NJCDD) and its affiliates, the New Jersey Family Support Planning Council and the NJCDD Self-Advocate Advisory subcommittee
- [Voting: It's Your Right](#) – guide to voter rights and voting in NJ for people with disabilities (see also *Voting: It's Your Right* [E-Learning Course](#))
 - Developed by The Boggs Center on Disability and Human Development, in collaboration with New Jersey's Developmental Disabilities Network Partners, Disability Rights New Jersey and the NJ Council on Developmental Disabilities

Resources

Community Resources

- [Disability Rights New Jersey](#)
800-922-7233 (toll-free in New Jersey only)
- [Ombudsman for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities and their Families](#)
609-984-7764
- [New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities](#)
800-792-8858
- [The Boggs Center on Disability and Human Development](#)
732-235-9300

DDD Resources

- For issues, call the DDD [Community Services Office](#) for your county or 800-832-9173.
- For routine questions:
DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov
- To report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation: call 800-832-9173, then press 1.