



Division Update for Individuals, Families and Providers

September 25, 2025

Agenda

- Next DDD Update Webinar
- Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates
- VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition Update
- Family and Peer-to-Peer Networking Sessions
- NJ Election 2025
- Resources

Next DDD Update Webinar

- October DDD Update Webinar:
 - Thursday, October 23, 2025 – 10:30 am
 - [Register for October Webinar](#)
- Reminder – Webinars are usually on the 4th Thursday of a month except for:
 - November Webinar is on Wednesday, [November 26th at 10:30am](#)
 - December Webinar is on Thursday, [December 18th at 10:30am](#)
- The 2025 schedule of DDD Update Webinars, including registration links, is available on the Division's [Public Update Meetings](#) webpage

Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates

- Overall
 - General grammatical, typo corrections, updates to form names, email addresses, and links where applicable, etc.
- Section 1
 - Clarified manual applicability to Medicaid/Division approved providers, including Support Coordination Agencies.
- Section 3
 - For NJCAT re-assessments, clarified that a person needs to be assigned an SCA and have an ISP and PCPT.
 - Revised individual budgets to reflect rate increases since last revision.

Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates

- Section 3
 - Edited/added Sections 3.4.1 Acuity Factor Requirements
 - Emphasized that persons with Acuity need to be served by Acuity Differentiated services providers.
 - A segment of the previous 3.4.1 was moved to its own standalone section called 3.4.2 Behavioral Acuity Requirements. Added information on Provider Managed Settings.
 - A new section called 3.4.3 Medical Acuity Requirements was added. Added information on Provider Managed Settings.

Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates

- Section 6 – updated Support Coordination Responsibilities to reflect that:
 - The Participant Rights and Responsibilities form is now integrated into the ISP;
 - That the Division needs to be alerted if a person served is homeless, pending eviction, or otherwise experiencing health and safety challenges;
 - That for persons assigned acuity Provider Search can be used to ensure agencies they are referred to serve people with acuity;
 - That if a person is moving to a setting without a family caregiver present the Independent Living Tool needs to be completed.
- Section 7
 - Added guidance on electronic signatures
- Section 8
 - Clarified that Self-Directed Employees cannot be paid for hours during which they are asleep.
 - Updated information related to Self-Directed Employee training.
 - Revised individual budgets for retirement to reflect rate increases since last revision (CCP Only).

Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates

- Section 8
 - Updated data related to Reasonable and Customary wages.
 - A Reasonable and Customary (R&C) wage range, as opposed to a static rate, has been adopted to allow the ability to scale SDE wages based on DSP wages. The [National Core Indicators State of the Workforce Survey Report](#) reflects data from 2023. It demonstrates (See *Method II* found on page 38 of that document) an average hourly DSP wage of \$19.12. Since that time, DSP wages in New Jersey increased by about \$1.75/hour on January 1, 2024. This projects the current DSP average wage in New Jersey to be about \$20.87/hour.

Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates

- Section 8
 - Updated data related to Reasonable and Customary wages.
 - Using this information and the data below, the R&C wage range for an SDE shall be the prevailing minimum wage up to \$25.00/hour. An SDE may not be paid a wage above \$25.00/hour unless they meet the standard for an Enhanced R&C wage set forth below. The \$25.00/hour wage was arrived at by reviewing May 2024 data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for the State of New Jersey ([Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics](#)). This data demonstrated a mean hourly wage for the following occupations as listed below:
 - Home Health and Personal Care Aides - \$18.30/hour
 - Healthcare Support Workers, All Other - \$24.25/hour
 - Personal Care and Service Workers, All Other - \$18.64/hour

Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates

- Section 8
 - Updated data related to Reasonable and Customary wages.
 - An Enhanced R&C wage range of the prevailing minimum wage up to \$36.50/hour is available in certain circumstances for certain professionals. The availability of the Enhanced R&C wage is not solely based on the presence or absence of an individual being assigned an acuity. The \$36.50/hour wage was arrived at by reviewing May 2024 data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for the State of New Jersey ([Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics](#)). This data demonstrated a mean wage for the following occupations as listed below:
 - Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors - \$36.49/hour
 - Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses - \$34.28/hour

Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates

- Section 8
 - For SDEs who are a Registered Nurse, an Enhanced R&C wage range of the prevailing minimum wage up to \$51.50/hour is available in certain circumstances. The availability of the Enhanced R&C wage is not solely based on the presence or absence of an individual being assigned an acuity. The \$51.50/hour wage was arrived at by reviewing May 2024 data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics for the State of New Jersey ([Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics](#)). This data demonstrated a mean wage for the following occupation as listed below:
 - Registered Nurses - \$51.44/hour

Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates

- Section 10
 - Updated to reflect Acumen as the incoming Fiscal Intermediary for DDD's Vendor Fiscal/Employer Agent model.
- Section 11
 - Updated information on required sections of service provider Policy and Procedure manual.
- Section 13
 - Updated information in Annual ISP section.
- Section 15
 - Updated elements related to updated training requirements.
 - Updated sections related to Incident Reporting.
- Section 16
 - Updated information in Appeals and Reinstatement section.

Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates

- Section 17
 - Made minor updates to Behavioral Supports service definition.
 - Updated Day Habilitation service definition to reflect that, if serving persons with acuity, the agency must have the proper credentials and that the values to receive a three- and five-year certification have been increased.
 - Updated Individual Supports service definition to reflect that, if serving persons with acuity, the agency must have the proper credentials.
 - Updated Natural Supports service definition to reflect current training requirements.
 - Updated information on Activity Fees in Goods and Services service definition.

Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates

- Section 17
 - Updated Pre-Vocational Services service definition to better explain the two-year limitation on the service.
 - Updated Respite service definition to reflect that, if serving persons with acuity, the agency must have the proper credentials.
 - Updated Support Coordination service definition to reflect that the Participant Rights and Responsibilities form is now integrated into the ISP; That the Division needs to be alerted if a person served is homeless, pending eviction, or otherwise experiencing health and safety challenges; That if a person is moving to a setting without a family caregiver present the Independent Living Tool needs to be completed.
 - Made various updates to the Supports Brokerage service definition.

Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates

- Section 18 – Definition Updates
 - **Provider Managed** – A residence where a singular service provider owns or controls the setting and coordinates all residential services for all individuals who live in the setting. Individual(s) in this setting share in chores and the overall management of the residence. Staff provide supervision, mentoring, teaching, and/or assistance in a variety of forms and intensity as required to assist individuals. Individuals who reside in a provider managed setting are required to have a lease or residency agreement. The following factors inform the determination whether the setting must be licensed under the provisions set forth in N.J.A.C. 10:44A – Standards for Community Residences for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities:
 - Individual(s) residing in the setting are enrolled on the Community Care Program (CCP); – AND –
 - The setting is provider managed – AND –
 - At least one individual residing in the setting, as documented in the ISP, requires personal guidance

Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates

- Section 18 – Definition Updates
 - **Self-Directed Employee Services** – When an individual (or their guardian) elects to manage service provision through the utilization of one or more Self-Directed Employees (SDEs) paid through one of the Division’s Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs).
 - **Self-Directed Vendor Services** – When an individual (or their guardian) elects to use one or more of the following services paid through one of the Division’s Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs): Assistive Technology; Environmental Modifications, Goods and Services, Person Emergency Response System (PERS), Supports Brokerage, and/or Vehicle Modifications.
 - **Self-Direction** – When an individual (or their guardian) elects to use Self-Directed Employee and/or Self-Directed Vendor Services paid through one of the Division’s Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs).
 - **Service Provider** – a provider that is Medicaid/DDD approved to render a service through the Community Care or Supports Program.

Community Care and Supports Program Policy Manual Updates

- Appendix Updates
 - Updated Appendix A.
 - Updated Quick Reference Guide to Mandated Staff Training in Appendix E and split into three sections. One for DSPs and Other Staff; One for Self-Directed Employees; and One for Support Coordination.
 - Updated rates to reflect increases since last revision in Appendix H.
 - Updated language in Appendix K.
 - Updated PMPM values in Appendix P.

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

Status of Completed Acumen Enrollments and Approved Plan Revisions as of 09/24/2025

Cohort	Individuals in Cohort	Enrollment Completed	Enrollment In-Process	Enrollment Not Completed	# of Prior Authorizations Approved
Cohort 1 – 4a	7,693	5,693	144	1,856	5,442
Cohort 5	5,211	2,776	1,467	968	1,311

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition - Webinars

September 25

- 11:30 am – 12:30 pm [Webinar for Support Coordinators and Supports Brokers](#)
- 1 – 2 pm [Webinar for Individuals/Families, Authorized Representatives, Employers of Record, and Self-Directed Employees](#)
- 3 – 4 pm [Webinar for Community Vendors and Individuals/Families who use Vendor Services](#)

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition - Webinars

Oct. 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">10:30 am – 11:30 pm Webinar for Support Coordinators and Supports Brokers1:30 – 2:30 pm Webinar for Individuals/Families, Authorized Representatives, Employers of Record, and Self-Directed Employees3 – 3:30 pm Webinar for Community Vendors and Individuals/Families who use Vendor Services
Oct. 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">11 am – 12 pm Webinar for Support Coordinators and Supports Brokers1 – 2 pm Webinar for Individuals/Families, Authorized Representatives, Employers of Record, and Self-Directed Employees3 – 3:30 pm Webinar for Community Vendors and Individuals/Families who use Vendor Services
Oct. 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">11:00 am – 12:00 pm Webinar for Support Coordinators and Supports Brokers1 – 2 pm Webinar for Individuals/Families, Authorized Representatives, Employers of Record, and Self-Directed Employees3 – 3:30 pm Webinar for Community Vendors and Individuals/Families who use Vendor Services
Oct. 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">11:45 am – 12:45 pm Webinar for Support Coordinators and Supports Brokers1 – 2 pm Webinar for Individuals/Families, Authorized Representatives, Employers of Record, and Self-Directed Employees3 – 3:30 pm Webinar for Community Vendors and Individuals/Families who use Vendor Services
Oct. 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">11 am – 12 pm Webinar for Support Coordinators and Supports Brokers1 – 2 pm Webinar for Individuals/Families, Authorized Representatives, Employers of Record, and Self-Directed Employees3 – 3:30 pm Webinar for Community Vendors and Individuals/Families who use Vendor Services



Family Networking Sessions – Fall 2025

The Office of Education on Self-Directed Services (OESDS) has released its [Fall 2025 Family Networking Sessions](#) schedule. These sessions are for people and families who are, or are interested in, self-directing some of or all their DDD-funded services.

Advance Registration is Required!

Monmouth County

Tues., Oct. 7, 1 – 3 p.m.
Monmouth County Library

[Register for October 7 Session](#)

VIRTUAL STATEWIDE

Tues., Oct. 14, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

[Register for October 14 Virtual Session](#)

Cape May and Atlantic Counties

Wed., Oct. 22, 1 – 3 p.m.
Ocean City Free Public Library

[Register for October 22 Session](#)

Burlington County

Wed., Oct. 29, 1 – 3 p.m.
Burlington County Library

[Register for October 29 Session](#)

Bergen County

Wed., Nov. 5, 1 – 3 p.m.
Bergen County Special Services School District

[Register for November 5 Session](#)



October Peer-to-Peer Networking Session

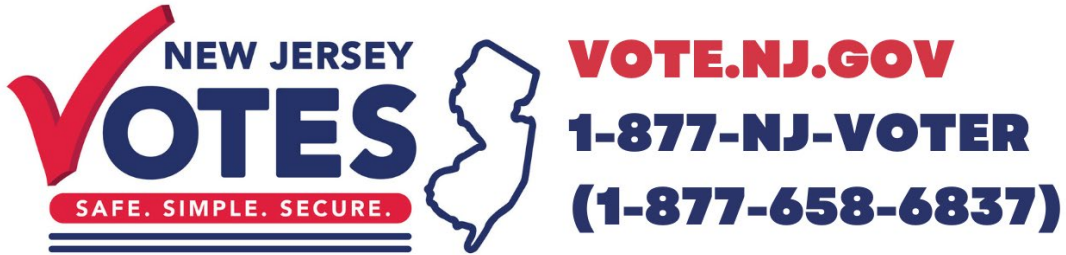
The Office of Education on Self-Directed Services (OESDS) offers Virtual Peer-to-Peer Networking Sessions for adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities who are, or are interested in, self-directing their services.

Wednesday, October 1, 2025

6 – 7:30 p.m.

Virtual via Zoom

[Register for Oct. 1 Peer-to-Peer Networking Session](#)



NJ Election 2025

2025 Dates to Remember

- **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

- [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.