

Understanding the Supports Program: A Guide for Caregivers



What is the Support Program?

- The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) is the New Jersey state agency that can provide supports and services to individuals 21 years of age or older with an intellectual or developmental disability (IDD). One way it does this is through its Supports Program.

What is a Support Coordination Agency?

- A support coordination agency is a DDD-funded service that assists individuals in gaining access to programs and state services.

What is a Support Coordinator?

- Support Coordinators play an important role in the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. They are professionals that help identify the supports an individual needs, assist the individual plan for the life he/she wants, and connect the individual to services that will help him/her achieve a quality life in the community.

Eligibility

- At least 21 years old
- Deemed eligible for DDD services
 - DDD Intake Application: bit.ly/dddapplicationpdf
 - NJ CAT Assessment: bit.ly/dddservicesnjcat
- Has and maintains Medicaid eligibility: bit.ly/njmedicaid
- Lives in an unlicensed setting (own home or family home)
- Is not currently enrolled in another Medicaid waiver such as the Community Care Program (CCP) or Managed Long Term Services and Supports (MLTSS)

Additional Resources:

- Supports Program Policies & Procedures Manual: bit.ly/dddspmanual2022

Selecting a Support Coordination Agency

- Once an individual becomes eligible for DDD services, the individual may choose a Support Coordination Agency to work with or DDD will auto assign an agency to the individual.
- To change or select an agency, submit the Support Coordination Selection form: <http://bit.ly/supportcoordselectionform>
- An individual may select a new agency at any time.
- Support Coordination Agencies List: bit.ly/supportcoordlist
- Research and Evaluate Support Coordination Agencies: bit.ly/evaluatesupportcoord

Support Coordinator

- The Support Coordination Agency will assign a support coordinator and he/she will contact the individual and their family to initiate the person centered planning process. The Support Coordinator is responsible for developing the individualized service plan (ISP) with the individual, the individual's family, and other team members designated by the individual.
- The Support Coordinator is responsible for monitoring services utilized by the individual.
 - Person-Centered Planning Tool (PCPT): bit.ly/dddpcpt
 - Individualized Service Plan (ISP): bit.ly/dddispplan
- *Please Note: While an individual or family can request a specific Support Coordinator, there is no guarantee that the Support Coordination Agency will be able to assign the preferred Support Coordinator.*

Services Available through supports program

- Assistive technology
- Behavioral supports
- Career planning
- Cognitive rehabilitation
- Community based supports
- Community inclusion services
- Day habilitation
- Environmental modifications
- Goods & services
- Interpreter services
- Natural support training
- Occupational therapy
- Personal Emergency response system (PERS)
- Physical therapy
- Prevocational training
- Respite
- Speech, language and hearing therapy
- Support coordination
- Supported Employment
- Supports brokerage