



UNDERSTANDING THE DDD BUDGET AND A GUIDE TO THE SERVICES AVAILABLE

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Caregivers of NJ



The NJCAT: NJ Comprehensive Assessment Tool

- Once DDD says you are eligible for services, the NJCAT will be completed.
- NJCAT assesses the areas of self-care, behavioral, medical
- The answers are assessed and DDD will assign you a Tier letter (A-E)
- In addition, an acuity differentiated factor will be added to the tier for individuals with high clinical support needs based on medical and/or behavioral concerns.
- The acuity-based tiers include: Aa, Ba, Ca, etc..)

The Tier Letter

- Corresponds to an individualized budget you will receive from the Division.
- Is also associated with a rate that providers get paid for providing services.
- The budget can be used to purchase various supports and services.



DDD Budgets by Tier Letter

Supports Program Waiver vs. Community Care Program Waiver

Supports Program			
Tier	Employment/Day	Ind/Family Supports	Total
A	\$20,564	\$7,442	\$28,006
Aa	\$28,628	\$7,442	\$36,070
B	\$26,208	\$14,883	\$41,091
Ba	\$36,519	\$14,883	\$51,402
C	\$32,429	\$14,883	\$47,312
Ca	\$45,159	\$14,883	\$60,042
D	\$48,096	\$22,324	\$70,420
Da	\$66,932	\$22,324	\$89,256
E	\$63,821	\$22,324	\$86,145
Ea	\$88,820	\$22,324	\$111,144

Community Care Program				
Tier	Employment/Day	Ind/Family Supports	Individual Supports	Total
A	\$20,564	\$7,442	\$ 36,792	\$ 64,798
Aa	\$28,628	\$7,442	\$ 67,847	\$ 103,917
B	\$26,208	\$14,883	\$ 73,584	\$ 114,675
Ba	\$36,519	\$14,883	\$ 135,693	\$ 187,095
C	\$32,429	\$14,883	\$ 122,640	\$ 169,952
Ca	\$45,159	\$14,883	\$ 226,154	\$ 286,196
D	\$48,096	\$22,324	\$ 171,696	\$ 242,116
Da	\$66,932	\$22,324	\$ 316,616	\$ 405,872
E	\$63,821	\$22,324	\$ 220,752	\$ 306,897
Ea	\$88,820	\$22,324	\$ 407,078	\$ 518,222

**“What Happens If I
Don’t Have Enough
Money or My Needs
Change?”**

NJCAT Reassessment Requests

- Must be substantiated
- Must be requested by the family or individual
- Does not guarantee a tier change
- Can be denied

The DDD Budget

- Is not actual money you will receive.
- You will choose a **Support Coordination agency and be assigned a Support Coordinator** that will help you find services and supports you need or are interested in.
- Your support coordinator will write a plan (The ISP) and add in the services you want, ensuring you stay within your budget.
- The budget renews yearly, however, any money not used in a given plan does not carry over into next year's plan.



Assistive Technology	Natural Supports Training	Prevocational Training
Occupational Therapy	Career Planning	Community Based Supports
Behavioral Supports	Physical Therapy	Respite
Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)	Cognitive Rehabilitation	Day Habilitation
Speech, Language and Hearing Therapy	Environmental Modifications	Goods and Services
Support Coordination	Supported Employment (Small Group)	Transportation
Fiscal Management Services	Interpreter Services	Community Inclusion
Supports Brokerage	Vehicle Modification	Supported Employment (Individual)



Assistive Technology

Assistive Technology Device: an item, piece of equipment, or product system used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of an individual.

Assistive Technology Service: a service that directly assists a participant in the selection, acquisition, or use of an assistive technology device.





Examples of Assistive Technology

- Evaluation of assistive technology needs
- Purchasing, leasing, acquiring AT
- Designing, fitting, customizing devices
- Repairing or replacing devices
- Ongoing maintenance fees
- Training or technical assistance for the individual, family, guardians, professionals, etc. to use the technology



Therapy

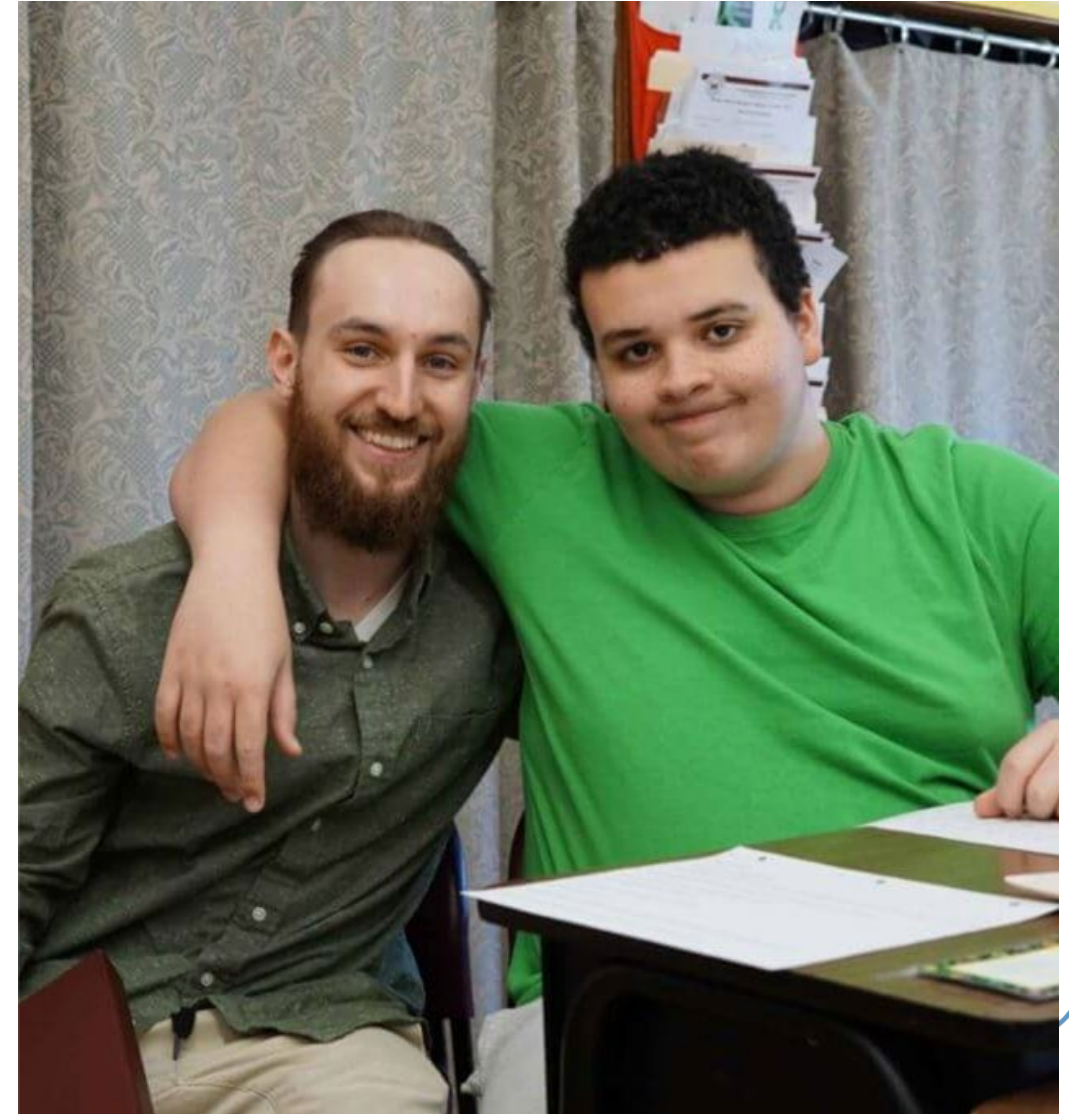
- **Occupational Therapy**
- **Physical Therapy**
- **Speech, Language and Hearing Therapy**





Behavioral Supports

Individual and/or group counseling, behavioral interventions, diagnostic evaluations or consultations related to the individual's developmental disability and necessary for the individual to acquire or maintain appropriate interactions with others.



Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)

- An electronic device that helps someone secure help in an emergency
- Is connected to the person's phone and is programmed to signal a response center once a "help" button is activated.



Examples of PERS Activities

- The PERS device
- Cost of installation and testing
- Monthly cost of response center services



Career Planning

- An employment planning and support service that provides assistance in obtaining, maintaining or advancing in competitive employment or self-employment
- Focused and limited in time
- Engages a participant in identifying a career direction and developing a plan for achieving competitive, integrated employment



Examples of Career Planning

- Helping to determine career direction through interest inventories, situational assessments, etc.
- Developing a plan that states the career objective and guides individual employment support

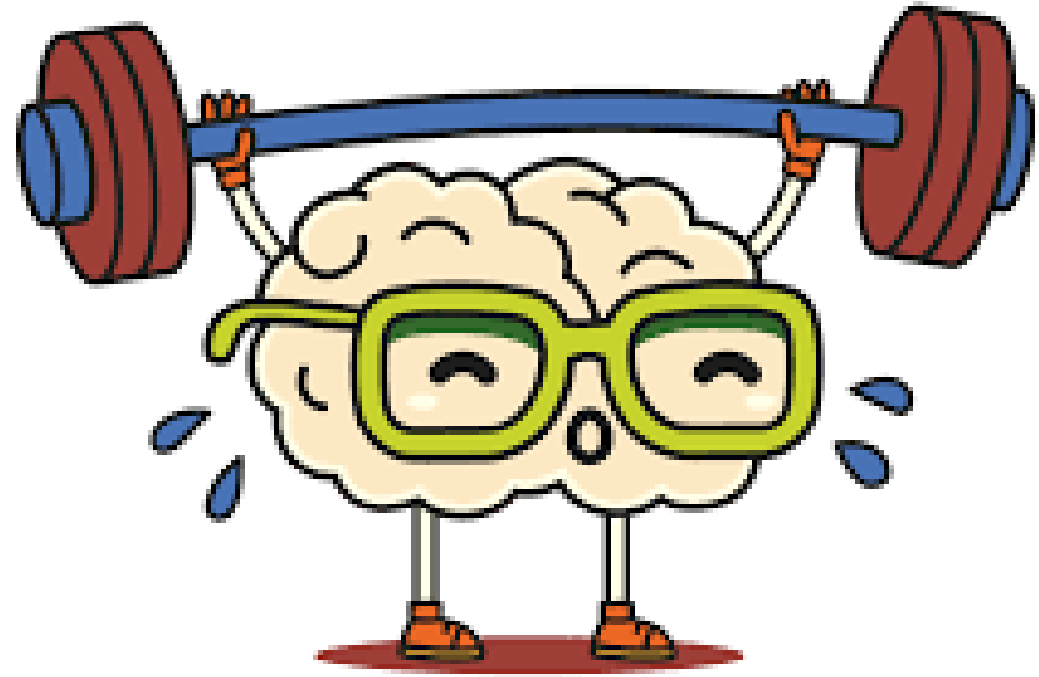


Cognitive Rehabilitation

Therapeutic cognitive activities based on an assessment of a person's brain behavior deficits

Examples of Cognitive Rehabilitation

- ☐ Direct retraining
- ☐ Compensatory strategies
- ☐ Cognitive orthotics and prostheses



Community Based Supports

- Services that provide direct support and assistance, with or without the caregiver present
- Can occur at home or in the community
- **Goal:** to achieve and/or maintain increased independence, productivity, enhanced family functioning, and inclusion in the community



Community Based Supports Cont'd.

- Delivered one-on-one
- Activities of daily living, ordering off a menu, purchasing items, learning basic cooking, laundry skills, etiquette, travel training, accessing activities in the community, etc.



Day Habilitation



- Services that provide education and training to acquire the skills and experience needed to participate in the community
- Include activities to support participants with:
 - problem-solving skills
 - self-help
 - social skills
 - adaptive skills
 - daily living skills
 - leisure skills

Day Habilitation



- Activities and environments are designed to foster the acquisition of skills, the building of positive social behavior and interpersonal competence, and to help the individual become more independent.
- This service is provided during daytime hours
- Is offered in a center-based or community-based setting

Environmental Modifications

physical adaptations to the private residence that are necessary to ensure the health, welfare and safety of the participant or that enable the participant to function with greater independence in the home



Examples

- Ramps
- Grab-bars
- Widening of doorways
- Bathroom modifications
- Emergency generator for equipment
- Air filters/humidifiers
- Stair lifts
- Ceiling track systems for transfers



Vehicle Modifications

- Assessments, adaptations, or alterations to a car or van that is the participant's primary means of transportation

Examples:

- Steering/brake controls
- Vehicle lift or ramp
- raising or lowering of the roof or floor



Goods and Services

- Services, equipment or supplies that cannot otherwise be purchased through generic resources, the budget, or through the State plan, but still addresses an identified need.
- Certain requirements need to be met
- Purchased with the DDD budget but paid for by the fiscal intermediary (Public Partnerships)



Examples:

- Gym/YMCA memberships
- Tutoring
- Art Classes
- Music, Drama classes
- Cooking classes
- Microwave oven
- Garage Door Opener
- Fingerprinting cost for a job
- Classes within general public





Interpreter Services

- Service delivered to a participant face-to-face
- Supports them in integrating more fully with community-based activities or employment
- May be delivered in a participant's home or in a community setting
- Must be delivered by an individual proficient in reading and speaking in the language in which the participant speaks.
- Includes American Sign Language



Natural Supports Training

- **Natural Supporters:** any person, family member, neighbor, friend, companion, or co-worker who provides uncompensated care, training, guidance, companionship or support to a participant
- Training and counseling services for individuals who provide unpaid support, training, companionship or supervision to participants



Examples:

- Training in use of equipment
- Training on how to implement behavior plan
- Training on ambulation/transfer techniques
- Training on dietary/eating techniques
- Training on diabetes management
- Training on implementation of behavior plan
- Training on PT or OT activities at home

Pre-Vocational Training

- Services that provide learning and work experiences
- Can include volunteering
- Goal is to develop general, non-job-task-specific strengths and skills that can lead to competitive employment in the community



Examples of Pre-Vocational Training

- Training in effective communication with supervisors, co-workers and customers
- Workplace and community conduct
- Ability to follow directions
- Ability to attend to tasks
- Workplace problem solving skills and strategies
- General workplace safety and mobility training





Supported Employment

- Activities needed to help a participant obtain and maintain an individual job in competitive or customized employment or self-employment, in an integrated work setting in the general workforce
- Can take place one-on-one
- Can take place in a small group setting

Examples of Supported Employment



- Training and systematic instruction
- Job coaching
- Benefits support/planning
- Travel training
- Training that will enable an individual to be successful in integrating on a job setting (even where not specifically related to job-skills)

Respite

- Short-term
- Hourly, daily, overnight
- In home, group home, camp or hotel



Transportation

- Offered to enable participants to gain access to services, activities and resources
- Can be provided by Medicaid/DDD approved transportation providers, generic services or vendors used by the public, or self-directed employees (SDE)



Self-Directed Services

An approach to delivering home and community-based services that offers increased choice and authority over how and from whom, an individual receives their waiver services.

- Is an alternative to traditional provider-managed services
- You can self-direct some or all or some of your services
- This means that, within the parameters of your individual budget, you can choose to self-direct by hiring your own caregiver, known as a self-directed employee to provide needed services.

Self-Directed Services, Cont'd

SDE Service models are made possible through a financial management services agency, known as a fiscal intermediary, which conducts some employer-related tasks such as payroll processing and tax withholding.

The fiscal intermediary processes self-directed employee timesheets, vendor invoices, and issues payments.

For More Information About Self Direction:

<https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddd/individuals/community/selfdirected/>



The Role of Your Support Coordinator

You Have a Choice!



Upon completion of the NJCAT, soon after, DDD will ask you to choose a Support Coordination agency.

Your Support Coordinator will:

- Discuss your goals, likes, dislikes, interests, etc.
- Discuss service options
- Connect you to services
- Ensure you stay within your budget
- Understand DDD's policies



We're Here to Help You!

Contact me for more
information:

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We offer Support Coordination in the
following counties:

Atlantic, Burlington, Bergen, Cape May,
Cumberland, Hudson, Hunterdon,
Mercer, Passaic, Salem, Somerset,
Sussex, Warren

