

# State Autism Services

## Frequently Asked Questions

### MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES (MHDS)

#### Self-Directed Autism Services (SDAS)

#### **What is the purpose of the program?**

The program is designed to support families of children who have the most significant levels of autism by accessing specialty therapies and supporting the family so they may remain intact.

#### **Who is eligible for the service?**

Families with children aged 18 months until they turn 11 years that qualify for Developmental Services by having a diagnosis of Mental Retardation or a related condition may apply for the services.

#### **What conditions are covered?**

The diagnosis of autism is covered, the service does not cover other autism spectrum disorders (ASD) such as Asperger's Syndrome.

#### **What are the costs or income limitations?**

The family income may not exceed 500% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and the child must live with the family.

#### **Are there waiting lists?**

There may be waiting lists. Services are prioritized to the youngest most significantly impaired children.

#### **What is covered?**

Self-directed services that may include specialty training or therapies such as ABA or other evidence based training and limited amounts of respite care.

Being a recipient of regional centers services, the family also receives service coordination.

### OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES (ODS)

#### Independent Living Autism Services

#### **What is the purpose of the program?**

Provide support for evidence based, home-based intervention services for children with autism spectrum disorders who cannot qualify for services through MHDS or Medicaid

#### **Who is eligible for the service?**

Children aged 18 months until they turn 19 years

#### **What conditions are covered?**

Asperger's Syndrome, Pervasive Developmental Disorders-Not Otherwise Specified, and Childhood Degenerative Disorders diagnosed by a certified professional

#### **What are the costs or income limitations?**

Applicants will be subject to the existing Independent Living Program co-payment formula. The formula is based upon family income, less medical expenses that exceeds 200% of poverty.

#### **Are there waiting lists?**

There may be waiting lists. Services are prioritized to the youngest, most significantly impaired applicants or when a family experiencing an unusual hardship

#### **What is covered?**

Evidence-based, applied behavioral analysis services, including program training and supervision, daily intervention, and essential tools, supplies or equipment

**What is not covered?**

Medicines, other supplements, equipment, and supplies are not covered. Only services are covered.

**How much is available?**

Monthly allocations are made depending on the age of the child. Payments are reduced as the child is eligible for more school coverage. As of July 1, 2007, payments are:

Age 18 months through age 5--\$1555 per month,

Age 6 through age 8--\$1037 per month, and

Age 9 until they turn 11--\$778 per month.

After age 11 the family may seek regular self-directed services at a lower amount through the regional center.

**Can I get this coverage as well as other coverage?**

This program may be used to supplement, but not replace Early Intervention, Medicaid, Insurance, and School programs. A family may not be in both this program and the ODS self-directed program at the same time.

**How are services planned and coordinated?**

A service coordinator will help set up the program and periodically review it with the family. The self-directed services empower families to purchase services up to the amount of the monthly allocation.

**What is not covered?**

Respite, medicines, supplements, treatments which are not evidenced-based

**How much is available?**

Monthly allocations are made depending on the age of the applicant. Payments are reduced if a child is eligible for school coverage. As of October 1, 2007, payments are:

Age 18 months through age 5--\$1555 per month,

Age 6 through age 8--\$1037 per month, and

Age 9 until they turn 19--\$778 per month.

Total funding is limited and is currently only available through June 30, 2009

**Can I get this coverage as well as other coverage?**

This program may be used to supplement, but not replace Early Intervention, Medicaid, Insurance, and School programs. A family may not be in both this program and the MHDS self-directed program at the same time.

**How are services planned and coordinated?**

Services will be coordinated between the behavioral professional, the family, and the RAGE/NNCIL case manager.

**How are payments for services handled?**

Families document the receipt of services by providers. Actual payments, tax reporting etc. are handled by a fiscal agent.

**What other requirements are there?**

To participate in the program the family must agree to follow program rules, this includes periodically completing standardized questionnaires\*.

**What if the child improves so they no longer qualify for DS services, but still needs help?**

The family may seek to continue similar services through ODS.

**What are evidence based services?**

A list of evidence based services is available.

**Where does a family apply for services?**

**SOUTH:**

702-486-7794, ask for the intake coordinator

**NORTH:**

775-688-1930, ask for the intake coordinator

**RURAL:**

*Elko, Eureka, White Pine, Lander, Humboldt counties:*

Deb Harris, 775-753-4236 x228, dkharris@rrc.nv.gov

*Balance of Rural area:*

Tom Bethmann, 775-687-5162 x 237, tbethmann@rrc.nv.gov

**How are payments for services handled?**

Families document the receipt of services by providers. Actual payments, tax reporting etc. are handled by a fiscal agent.

**What other requirements are there?**

To participate in the program the family must agree to follow program rules, this includes periodically completing standardized questionnaires\*.

**What if the child improves so they no longer qualify for DS services, but still needs help?**

Not applicable

**What are evidence based services?**

A list of evidence based services is available.

**Where does a family apply for services?**

**SOUTH:**

Tonopah and south, Jan Crandy, 702-595-2067, comservjan@cox.net

**NORTH:**

North of Tonopah, Toni Richard, 775-324-5085, isign3550@sbcglobal.net