

About the Waiting List

Waivers are one way to pay for services that help people with developmental disabilities live their lives. The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) administers three different types of waivers. The Individual Options, Level One, and Self-Empowered Life Funding waivers each have different spending limits and offer some different services.

The waiting list is one way of keeping track of individuals who have unmet needs. A waiting list is created when we don't have the resources available to immediately meet the needs of everyone. Waiting is never easy; however, with limited resources and funding, county boards across the state have had to establish a waiting list for what dollars are available. It is critical that each county maintain their waiting list with integrity and fairness.

There is one waiting list per county. People may only be placed on the waiting list in their county of residence. For adults, this is the county where you live. For children, it is the county where the custodial entity/parent is. If you move, the new county will review your assessment with you to see if anything has changed.

The overall goal should **not** be to get on the waiting list, it should be to have the person's needs met. We use the formal, statewide Waiting List Assessment Tool to determine if a person has an **immediate need**, **current need**, or **no assessed need**.

Immediate Need

If there is an immediate need, it means there is a risk of substantial harm if action is not taken **within thirty (30) calendar days**. An individual with an immediate need will **NOT** be placed on the waiting list. Again, a person with an immediate need should not be waiting for that need to be met. Instead, an immediate need may be met through a waiver or through other available resources.

Current Need

A current need means there is an unmet need for services as determined by the county board **within 12 months**. This includes a risk of substantial harm if action is not taken within 12 months. Individuals with a current unmet need **WILL** be placed (or remain) on the waiting list until the need is met. The county board will review your assessment with you at least once a year to see if anything has changed. The need may be met through a waiver or through other resources. Once the need is met, the individual's name will be removed from the list.

As a reminder, there are no longer multiple waiting lists. If someone meets the criteria for a current need and is placed on the waiting list, either alternative services or an HCBS waiver will be offered when the waiver is available.

No Assessed Need

If there is no assessed need, or the assessed need can be met through other available community resources, the person will **NOT** be placed on (or will be removed from) the waiting list.

Additional Information

For questions about waiting lists, contact the Service and Support Administration (SSA) at 330-725-7751; option 2 or ssainfo@mcbdd.org. For questions about Medicaid Waivers, contact MCBDD Eligibility Specialists at eligibility@mcbdd.org. If you disagree with the outcome of your waiting list assessment, your Due Process Rights can also be explained at that time. If at any time your needs change, you may also request a new assessment.



For more information about waiting lists in the state of Ohio, visit <u>www.dodd.ohio.gov</u>.

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