

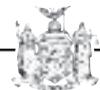
NYS Office For People With Developmental Disabilities
Putting People First



How to pay for OPWDD Services

(866) 946-9733
www.opwdd.ny.gov

Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor



Laurie A. Kelley
Acting Commissioner



At OPWDD, our motto is “putting people first.” With that in mind, we are committed to providing a variety of supports and services for individuals with developmental disabilities. This brochure provides a brief overview of the funding

programs that exist to help individuals and families pay for necessary supports and services. As always, our goal at OPWDD is to help individuals with developmental disabilities live richer lives within their communities.

Laurie A. Kelley

Laurie A. Kelley, Acting Commissioner

Overview

Services for people with developmental disabilities are available through the New York State Office For People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) and many not-for-profit providers whose programs are authorized by OPWDD.

For those seeking OPWDD services, the individual and spouse, parents or legal guardian (if he/she is under the age of 21) and any fiduciary acting on his/her behalf are liable for the cost of care (Article 43 of Mental Hygiene Law). Parents are not liable if the disabled person does not live at home, even if he/she returns for periodic visits. The Commissioner of OPWDD may waive or reduce the fees in cases of inability to pay or for other reasons.

Most OPWDD services are funded through the Medicaid Program, including a special Medicaid Waiver called the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver; the cost of room and board in group homes is funded through other benefits, such as Supplemental Security Income. These other benefits are also used to provide a monthly personal needs spending allowance.

OPWDD expects each individual seeking services to file for benefits that are available to fund the

services being sought. For example, if a person is seeking HCBS Waiver Services, the individual will be asked to file for Medicaid and the HCBS Waiver. Individuals may also pay for the cost of services with their own funds instead of enrolling in a benefit program.

Some services funded by OPWDD, such as Family Support Services, do not require a contribution to the cost of care. For services requiring a contribution, OPWDD can provide funding on an exception basis if the individual cannot qualify for benefits.

Medicaid

Medicaid is a need-based health insurance program that pays for:

- Home and Community-Based Services Waiver
- Care-at-Home Waiver
- Medicaid Service Coordination
- Residential Care in Developmental Centers and Intermediate Care Facilities

The Medicaid Program has special provisions for people with developmental disabilities:

- Individuals can work and still qualify for Medicaid.
- Parental income and resources are not considered for children living at home and seeking enrollment in the HCBS Waiver.
- Resources can be put into a Medicaid qualifying supplemental needs trust and be exempt for Medicaid purposes.

To apply for Medicaid, contact your local Revenue Support Field Office. They will assist you in locating the appropriate Medicaid Office to apply for benefits.

Other funding programs

While most OPWDD services are funded by Medicaid, other benefit/entitlement programs include:

- Supplemental Security Income – a needs-based program administered by the Social Security Administration. It provides:

- Supplemental income for needy individuals.
 - The primary source of funding for room and board for individuals who reside in community residential programs.
 - A monthly allowance for the recipient’s personal needs.
 - To apply for SSI benefits, call (800) 772-1213.
- Veteran’s Administration benefits
- Social Security Disability Insurance
- Railroad Retirement benefits
- Civil Service Annuity benefits

Veteran’s Administration, Social Security Disability Insurance, Railroad Retirement Benefits, and Civil Service Annuities provide income for monthly room and board and personal allowance. These benefits may derive from:

- The entitlement of a parent
 - The recipient’s own work record.
- Medicare – is a significant health insurance benefit available to:
 - Individuals over age 65 and individuals who receive Social Security Disability Insurance benefits.
 - For more information about Social Security Disability Insurance and Medicare benefits, call (800) 772-1213 or visit www.socialsecurity.gov.

To get services for yourself or a family member with a developmental disability, you or your family member must:

- Get paperwork confirming the developmental disability.
- Fill out the appropriate OPWDD forms.
- Apply for benefits that pay for the services you or your family member need.
- Sign up for the OPWDD Home and Community-Based Services Waiver if you or your family member want to receive Home and Community-Based Waiver services.

Assistance is available to help you understand the various benefit programs. Contact your local OPWDD Revenue Support Field Office, listed in this brochure, for information on paying for services and help in developing benefits. These offices also offer courses to help people learn about the benefit programs. Additionally, your service coordinator or provider can explain the rules on paying for the services.

OPWDD REVENUE SUPPORT FIELD OFFICES (RSFO)

There are nine RSFOs located throughout New York State. Each RSFO is associated with one or more Developmental Disabilities Services Offices (DDSOs). RSFO staff share their expertise with voluntary provider agencies, individuals with disabilities, their families, advocates, and other representatives.

BROOME RSFO

229-231 State Street– 3rd Floor
 Binghamton, NY 13901
 Phone: (607) 771-7210
 Fax: (607) 771-1098
 Counties Served: Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego, Tioga, Tompkins

CAPITAL DISTRICT RSFO

O.D. Heck DC—Bldg #12
 Balltown & Consaul Road
 Schenectady, NY 12304
 Phone: (518) 370-2010
 Fax: (518) 370-2297
 Counties Served: Albany, Fulton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, Washington

CENTRAL/SUNMOUNT RSFO

101 W. Liberty Street, P.O. Box 388
 Rome, NY 13440
 Phone: (315) 339-3440
 Fax: (315) 336-0407
 Counties Served: Cayuga, Clinton, Cortland, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, St. Lawrence

FINGER LAKES RSFO

Newark DC-Vienna 4, P.O. Box 70
 Newark, NY 14513
 Phone: (315) 331-7141
 Fax: (315) 331-0182
 Counties Served: Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, Yates

HUDSON VALLEY RSFO

3 Wilbur Road, Roome 45, P.O. Box 470
 Thiells, NY 10984-0470
 Phone: (845) 947-6250
 Fax: (845) 947-6161
 Counties Served: Orange, Rockland, Sullivan, Westchester

LONG ISLAND RSFO

415A Oser Avenue
 Hauppauge, NY 11788
 Phone: (631) 434-6109
 Fax: (631) 434-6511
 Counties Served: Nassau, Suffolk

NEW YORK CITY RSFO

75 Morton Street, 5th Floor
 New York, NY 10014-5798
 Phone: (212) 229-3343
 Fax: (212) 229-3095
 Counties Served: Bronx, Kings, Manhattan, Queens, Richmond

TACONIC RSFO

36 Firemen’s Way
 Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
 Phone: (845) 473-8210
 Fax: (845) 473-8204
 Counties Served: Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Putnam, Ulster

WESTERN NY RSFO

West Seneca DC, Bldg #70, 2nd Floor
 1200 East and West Road
 West Seneca, NY 14224
 Phone: (716) 675-8666
 Fax: (716) 675-8919
 Counties Served: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans

OPWDD’s Regional Offices

Region 1

585-461-8500
 (Counties: Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming, Yates)

716-517-2000

(Counties: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans)

Region 2

607-770-0211
 (Counties: Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego, Tioga, Tompkins)

315-473-5050

(Counties: Cayuga, Cortland, Herkimer, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Otsego)

518-359-3397

(Counties: Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Jefferson, St. Lawrence)

Region 3

518-370-7429
 (Counties: Albany, Fulton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren, Washington)

845-947-6100

(Counties: Orange, Rockland, Sullivan, Westchester)

845-473-5050

(Counties: Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Putnam, Ulster)

Region 4

718-217-4242
 (County: Queens)

718-642-6000, 718-642-6053/6054

(County: Kings)

646-766-3466

(County: New York)

718-430-0700

(County: Bronx)

718-983-5200

(County: Richmond)

Region 5

631-434-6100
 (Counties: Nassau, Suffolk)