

Waiver Expansion Over the Next Two Years

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Three Focus Areas

- Diversion from intermediate care facilities (ICFs)
- Helping people who want to leave ICFs to return to community-based settings
- Decreasing the number of people on the waiting list

Diversions Waivers

- Fully state-funded (400)
- Pre-admission interview process (effective 10/1)
 - Intended to help people consider all options before moving to an ICF
 - DOES NOT PREVENT an individual from choosing an ICF
 - For individuals seeking admission to ICFs with 9+ beds
 - Referral sent by the ICF to the person's county of residence
 - County board explains available options for meeting needs either through the ICF or through community-based options

Exit Waivers

- Fully state-funded (800)
- For individuals on the waiver waiting list who currently live in ICFs, but want to leave.
- DODD is contracting with CareStar to conduct interviews to see who wants to leave ICFs.
- Interviews will be prioritized based upon waiting list request dates.
- General education sessions and 1:1 interviews will begin in November.

Waiting List Reduction Waivers

- 1000 SELF Waivers – Fully state-funded
- 864 IO Waivers - County boards pay match on day services, DODD pays remaining match.
 - 648 regular IO Waivers
 - 216 for individuals interested in shared living services (Adult Family Living or Adult Foster Care)

Waiver Allocation Process

- All counties receive at least 3 waiting list reduction waivers (1 SELF, 1 regular IO, 1 IO for shared living)
- Distribution based on two factors
 - Number of waivers per 10,000 people in each county (waiver penetration)
 - County population

Waiver Penetration Allocation

Goal of getting all counties to the statewide median (number in the middle if the waiver enrollment in each county was laid out from smallest to largest)

Waiver Penetration Allocation

- 44 counties were below the median
- The number of waivers these counties could receive was capped based on per capita income
 - The wealthiest 50% of counties below the median could only receive up to a 30% increase in waivers.
 - The remaining 50% could receive up to a 50% increase in waivers

Waiver Penetration Allocation

- 969 waivers were distributed through this process
- Allocations included SELF and IOs (roughly 54% SELF and 46% IO)

County Population Allocation

- 895 waivers for individuals on the waiting list remained available.
- Any county that received at least a 10% increase in waivers through the initial allocation was not eligible to receive additional waivers through this process.

County-specific Information

Data about current enrollment in Level One, SELF, IO, and TDD Waivers and the number of waivers allocated to each county is posted on DODD's website.

<http://dodd.ohio.gov/pipeline/Pages/default.aspx>

Enrollment Process

Diversion Waivers

- Allocated based upon pre-admission interviews
(Additional information is available on DODD's training page)
- DODD will notify boards when residents of their counties receive diversion waivers
- Boards will add names to PICT and initiate enrollment

*Diversion waivers may not be requested directly by county boards

Enrollment Process

Exit Waivers

- Allocated based upon options counseling sessions completed by CareStar
- DODD will notify boards when residents of their counties receive exit waivers
- Boards will add names to PICT and initiate enrollment

*Exit waivers may not be requested directly by county boards

Enrollment Process

Waiting List Reduction Waivers

- Targeted for people on the “regular” waiting list.
 - County boards will continue to enroll individuals with emergency status in locally funded waivers.
 - DODD may contact boards for additional information if only individuals with recent waiting list dates are recommended for enrollment.

Enrollment Process

- County boards are expected to enroll people in all waivers allocated to them.
- Exceptions may include
 - Not enough people on the waiting list accepted a waiver when offered by the board.
 - No one in the county is interested in shared living services.
- All unused or vacated waivers will be returned to DODD for redistribution to other counties.

Enrollment Process

- Enrollment in SELF and IO Waivers is expected to occur at a consistent, even pace through June 2017 (roughly the same number of people enrolled each quarter).
- Progress with enrollment in waivers with state funding will be closely monitored by DODD with data posted each quarter.
- DODD will contact boards who are not allocating waivers consistently each quarter. Waivers may be redistributed by DODD if, based upon this conversation, it appears unlikely that the board will be able to allocate all waivers by June 2017.



Frequently Asked Questions

Why is the enrollment process for these waivers different?

The CMS-approved waiver applications effective 7/1/15 include reserve capacity for the 1864 waiting list reduction waivers. This enrollment process was established in response to a recommendation by the Strategic Planning Leadership Group to increase the number of “planned” (non-emergency) enrollments in the waiver. County boards will continue to enroll individuals with emergency and priority status as part of their regular waiver enrollment plans. These waivers are intended to supplement, not supplant, boards’ local enrollment efforts in order to further reduce the waiting list.

May individuals enrolled in other waivers be offered a SELF/IO with state funding?

Yes. The following conditions apply:

- The individual must be next on the waiting list.
- The team must have determined that the individual's needs could be better met by SELF or IO.
- The board must enroll another person from the waiting list in addition to enrolling the person in the waiver with state funding. When doing so, boards should follow the regular enrollment process.

If the team determines a person currently enrolled in a state-funded SELF Waiver could be more appropriately served through an IO Waiver with state funding, will the board be able to serve another person from the waiting list in the state-funded SELF waiver that is vacated?

Yes.

If a person on the waiting list declines to accept a waiver with state funding, does the person maintain his current place on the waiting list?

Yes. Anyone who declines waiver enrollment may choose to remain on the waiting list.

If the next person on the waiting list currently resides in a Developmental Center (DC), should he be offered a waiting list reduction waiver?

No. Residents of DCs have the opportunity to enroll in state-funded waivers through DODD's DC downsizing initiative.

If the next person on the waiting list currently resides in an intermediate care facility (ICF), should he be offered a waiver with state funding?

Maybe. Prior to offering a waiver to an individual in an ICF, boards should first speak with the individual and the provider to determine if the person will be offered a waiver through the voluntary conversion process. If the person is not being offered a state-funded waiver through any other initiative, he may be offered a SELF or IO Waiver with state funding.

If the next person on the waiting list currently resides in a nursing facility, should he be offered a waiver with state funding?

Yes.

If the next person on the waiting list is currently enrolled in TDD, should he be offered a waiting list reduction waiver?

No. All individuals enrolled in TDD will have the opportunity to choose to enroll in Level One, SELF, or IO as part of the TDD phase-out.

If the next person on the waiting list lives in another county, should he be offered a waiver with state funding?

Yes. However, in order to enroll in the waiver, the individual must agree to relocate to the county offering the waiver. If the person chooses not to relocate, the board should offer a waiver to the next person on the waiting list.

Are county boards permitted to give waivers to other counties or to “trade” waiver types?

No. Each board is expected to fill all allocated waivers with residents of their county. If a board determines all allocated waivers are unable to be filled, the unused waivers will be redistributed to other counties by DODD.

Are boards expected to add names of individuals to PICT?

Yes. Boards may add names of individuals enrolling in diversion, exit, or waiting list reduction waivers at any time. Upon entering names in PICT for waiting list reduction waivers, boards must send an email to waivercapacity-support@list.dodd.ohio.gov specifying the type of waiver in which each individual is enrolling.

What codes are to be entered into PICT?

- When entering names of individuals enrolling in diversion or exit waivers, boards should include the Martin (“M”) code.
- When entering names of individuals enrolling in SELF waiting list reduction waivers, boards should enter the CIBN code.
- When entering names of individuals enrolling in regular or shared living IO waiting list reduction waivers, boards should enter the code that corresponds with each person’s waiting list status.

What is the timeframe for enrolling individuals in waiting list reduction waivers?

All waivers must be allocated no later than 6/30/17. Boards should determine which individuals will be enrolled in SELF and IO waivers each quarter.

How do boards determine if the next person on the waiting list should be offered a SELF or IO Waiver?

Boards must assess the needs of the next person on the waiting list to determine which waiver is best suited to meet those needs. If the person's current assessed needs can be addressed through enrollment in SELF, then a SELF waiver should be offered.

Are boards able to “backfill” waiting list reduction waivers that are vacated as the result of death, relocation, or other reasons?

No. All vacated waivers return to DODD for redistribution.

What is the process by which boards are supposed to determine who will receive a “shared living” waiver?

Boards should have a conversation about the shared living option with otherwise eligible individuals on the waiting list. Those who express interest in this option should be offered the opportunity to enroll in IO. Those who are not interested would remain on the waiting list with their original request date.

If the board denies a waiver with state funding to an individual, how will this action be defended?

Boards should offer opportunities for enrollment in waivers with state funding only to individuals who are eligible to enroll based upon guidance issued by DODD for these waivers. In the event a person is denied the opportunity for enrollment, the board should introduce the DODD guidance as evidence of the enrollment process for these particular waivers and should indicate the specific reasons why the individual did not meet criteria for enrollment. Boards may contact DODD for technical assistance with these hearings, as needed.

If an individual enrolls in a waiting list reduction waiver to receive shared living, then later wants to live in a different kind of setting, does he lose his waiver?

No. Individuals who decide to move from shared living to another waiver setting will maintain enrollment in the waiver with state funding.



Questions?