

# OHIO SHARED LIVING

Sharing home.

## Caregivers

Ohio Shared Living (OSL) caregivers support people with developmental disabilities in a family setting. That can be in the caregiver's home or in the home of a person that needs live-in support.

OSL is a long-term commitment to sharing a home, helping with daily routines, and inviting someone with a developmental disability to be a part of a family, resulting in relationships that last a lifetime.

Being a caregiver is a full-time commitment, however caregivers can still work outside the home full-time, and respite programs are available to support caregivers.

OSL caregivers are paid to provide hands-on care and supportive services. Caregivers coordinate or facilitate all of the services outlined in a service plan. That can include things like cooking meals, providing transportation, and planning or providing activities during the day.

## Who can be an OSL live-in caregiver?

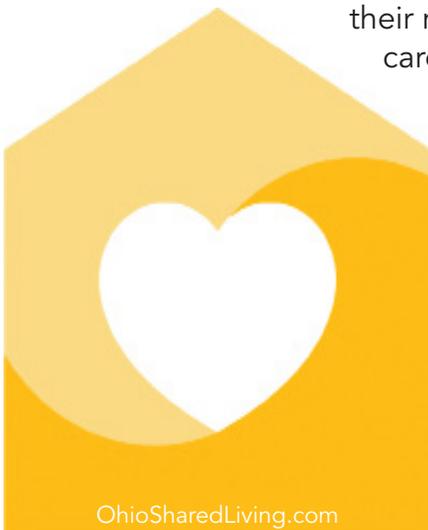
A caregiver can be anyone providing live-in care for a person with developmental disabilities as needed.

Parents cannot be OSL live-in caregivers for their minor children, and OSL live-in caregivers cannot provide services for their spouse.

All live-in caregivers, family or other, will receive a background check and are carefully screened.

No previous health care training is required.

Training and additional support may be available through OSL provider agencies.



[OhioSharedLiving.com](http://OhioSharedLiving.com)



**Sharing a home invites meaningful, lasting relationships.**



**Training, support and financial compensation is available for live-in caregivers.**



**Caregivers can be family or another person that provides live-in support.**

## How does someone become an OSL live-in caregiver?

OSL caregivers provide services directly to a person with a developmental disability. Caregivers can provide services as an independent provider or through a provider agency.

Because the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities prioritizes the health and safety of people with developmental disabilities and those who care for them, the department certifies both agency and independent providers of services.

New providers submit documentation like copies of birth certificates, social security cards and high school diplomas or GED certificates to the department or to their provider agency.

All providers are required to undergo a background check through the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI).

All providers must complete hands-on First Aid and CPR training through the American Red Cross, and eight hours of Direct Service Provider Training for Initial Certification.

Learn more about provider certification requirements on the department's website at [dodd.ohio.gov](http://dodd.ohio.gov).



### All providers must

- be at least 18 years old
- have a valid social security number
- be able to read, write and understand English
- have a high school diploma or GED

### Independent providers

- are self-employed
- are responsible for documenting and billing for the services they provide
- are responsible for meeting certification requirements outlined in [OAC 5123: 2-2-01 \(Provider Certification\)](#)

### Providers working with a provider agency

- may get assistance with administrative tasks like service documentation and billing
- may have opportunities to participate in caregiver support groups or additional training opportunities
- are responsible for, and may be assisted by their agency in meeting certification requirements outlined in [OAC 5123: 2-2-01 \(Provider Certification\)](#)

For more information about becoming an OSL Caregiver contact your county board of developmental disabilities or the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities at 1-800-617-6733, Option 4