



## Transcript of Video: Overview of Waiver Simplification Changes Coming July 1, 2022

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9RDZ\\_otUMc&feature=emb\\_title](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9RDZ_otUMc&feature=emb_title)

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, or DODD, is committed to improving the lives of Ohioans with developmental disabilities and their families. DODD has been working with its stakeholders and is excited to move Ohio system a step forward with changes to simplify, improve, and increase the flexibility of the Level One and Self-Empowered Life Funding or SELF waivers.

On July 1st, 2022, there will be five new services added to the level one waiver. Participant-Directed Goods and Services, Self-Directed Transportation, Functional Behavioral Assessment, Clinical Therapeutic Intervention, Participant Family Stability Assistance, Participant-Directed Goods and Services, often called PDGS, will have a budget cap of \$2,500 for those on a level one waiver. There continues to be no dollar cap for PDGS in the self waiver. The budget for the level one waiver will be \$45,000 for an adult, and \$30,000 for a child.

People enrolled on the level one waiver will shift to the new budget at their first waiver redetermination on or after July 1st, 2022. On July 1st, 2022 for the self waiver, home-delivered meals will be added as a service and changes will be made to the wording of the PDGS service to provide clarity. On July 1st, the Self-Directed Transportation Service will be added to the level one self and individual options waivers. The Self-Directed Transportation Service is available around the clock, including weekends and holidays to accommodate scheduled and on-demand transportation needs. This service allows people to travel independently. Self-Directed Transportation can be used in two ways. Purchase of prepaid vouchers, cards, passes or tokens to access public transportation, such as buses, cabs, and ride share services such as Uber or Lyft. People can be transported by someone they know such as a family member or neighbor. This person can be hired and paid through the Financial Management Services. Many administrative aspects of the self-directed transportation service will be handled through the financial management services or FMS entity.

On July 1st, 2022, the Home-Delivered Meal Service will be added to the self waiver. This service provides meals that are prepared, packaged, and delivered to a person's home to accommodate their dietary needs. These meals can be up to twice a day and now

include meals for kosher standard or therapeutic diets. Therapeutic diets refer to diets ordered by a healthcare professional that treat conditions or provide mechanically-altered food such as chopped or pureed foods. Payment rates will be adjusted to allow for different types of meals. Types of meals will need to be included in the person's individual service plan and authorized through the person's service support administrator.

On July 1st, the PDGS service will see these changes. A definition of Participant-Directed Budget will be added. Language revisions in the rule will shift focus away from the least expensive. The focus will be based on the specific needs of the waiver participant. It eliminates the requirement that each county board establishes a cost comparison process. Pools, spas, saunas, food, internet service, and items of general utility will be prohibited under PDGS. Language changes will also move the focus toward helping a person keep, learn, or improve everyday skills and away from medical necessity. Certain items will continue to require DODD approval such as generators, fences, play sets, and home modifications over \$10,000.

Visit [dodd.ohio.com](http://dodd.ohio.com) for more information on waiver services and the changes coming July 1st. If you have questions, contact [waiverpolicyTA@dodd.ohio.gov](mailto:waiverpolicyTA@dodd.ohio.gov).