

Questions for FAQ from 7/13/2022 webinar “Community Integration and Adult Day Supports, Vocational Habilitation”

QUESTION	ANSWER
<p>1. Is Vocational Habilitation paid or unpaid?</p>	<p>Vocational Habilitation can be paid or unpaid. Vocational Habilitation is an HCBS Waiver service which provides learning and work experiences, including volunteer work, that help to develop general skills that lead to integrated community employment. More information on both paid and volunteer work experiences can be found here.</p>
<p>2. We hear a lot of providers tell us they are doing Community Integration. When you speak with the individual you are told they were given the option of to go to a store or to go walk around. There doesn't seem to be a purpose, but providers say, “We are in the community.” This doesn't seem to be what the intention is. Can you clarify?</p>	<p>The setting of the service delivery is not the sole indicator of the service being community integrated. Community integration is also about access to people and places in the same manner as the broader community and connecting with them based on shared interests and identities. This may look different for each individual person receiving services even in the same group or with the same provider. People served, SSAs, and teams should be discussing the person’s assessed needs and outcomes and then planning for and authorizing the most appropriate services to support the person to move forward.</p>
<p>3. How does the service budget with Acuity C work with someone who goes to Day Program 5 days a week?</p>	<p>There is only the overarching budget that must be considered when assessing, planning for, and authorizing services for those on the SELF or Level One waivers. This overarching budget encompasses all services that the person may need to receive such as Homemaker Personal Care, Transportation, day services, etc. The buckets have continued to exist for those on Individual Options waivers. However, there is flexibility to exceed the day services budget limitation for community integrated services. There is no budget override needed to authorize community integrated services. People served, SSAs, and teams should be discussing the person’s assessed needs and outcomes and then planning for and authorizing the most appropriate services to support the person to move forward. Overall, we want our service system to lean into the community and providing community integrated ADS or VH services moves in this direction.</p>

<p>4. Does a day of community take days away from day program? Can someone go to Day Program during the day and then a Community Integration event that evening or a weekend?</p>	<p>“Community Integration” isn’t a service; the service are Adult Day Support and Vocational Habilitation. Community Integration is a way to deliver services purposefully focusing on access and interests. Whether it’s a “day program” or a “weekend event” shouldn’t matter.</p>
<p>5. Are other providers having issues with County Boards not wanting to authorize significant amounts of community services? SSAs in our county are holding people to budget limits, then actively referring them to other providers if they want more hours of service than their budget will allow.</p>	<p>There is only the overarching budget that must be considered when assessing, planning for, and authorizing services for those on the SELF or Level One waivers. This overarching budget encompasses all services that the person may need to receive such as Homemaker Personal Care, Transportation, day services, etc. The buckets have continued to exist for those on Individual Options waivers. However, there is flexibility to exceed the day services budget limitation for community integrated services. There is no budget override needed to authorize community integrated services. People served, SSAs, and teams should be discussing the person’s assessed needs and outcomes and then planning for and authorizing the most appropriate services to support the person to move forward. Overall, we want our service system to lean into the community and providing community integrated ADS or VH services moves in this direction.</p>
<p>6. A 2022 accreditation review did not make our local county board feel that there was a Community Integration mandate. The reviewers visited a traditional adult activity center and was fine with what they saw. That center does a lot of community outings, but that's not integration is it?</p>	<p>The setting of the service delivery is not the sole indicator of the service being community integrated. Community integration is also about access to people and places in the same manner as the broader community and connecting with them based on shared interests and identities. This may look different for each individual person receiving services even in the same group or with the same provider.</p>
<p>7. Does DODD anticipate this service model (definition/language, guidance, and the reimbursement rate defined in the Appendix of this rule) continuing as written, throughout the life of this rule, or longer? In other words, is this service model going to continue throughout the life of this rule, or could there be changes to any part of the service-model/reimbursement rate?</p>	<p>The Blueprint for Adult Day and Employment Services Work Group convened from January 2020 to May 2021 with the purpose of improving adult day support services, transportation services, and strengthening competitive, integrated employment outcomes for people with developmental disabilities throughout Ohio. This work resulted in the Final Blueprint Proposal which details strategies and a plan to continue to enhance and improve outcomes for people.</p>

<p>8. Is Community Integration meant to be a full day, or specifically when the provider is working in the community?</p>	<p>Community Integrated Adult Day Support or Vocational Habilitation may be authorized to meet the needs of the person and assist the person to progress towards their outcomes. People served, SSAs, and teams should be discussing the person’s assessed needs and outcomes and then planning for and authorizing the most appropriate services to support the person to move forward. Overall, we want our service system to lean into the community and providing community integrated ADS or VH services moves in this direction. Community Integrated Adult Day Support and Vocational Habilitation may be authorized for the length of time the team determines to be needed to support the person.</p>
<p>9. If services are provided for a group of 4 or less individuals in an Integrated Community Setting for 5 hours or more, can the 'C' rate be billed at the daily rate?</p>	<p>Yes, Community Integrated services can be billed at a daily rate as well as a unit rate. More information on this can be found at the following links: Adult Day Support Vocational Habilitation</p>
<p>10. Is the new funding structure of the Level 1 waiver officially in effect? With the new funding structure is there any difference between the SELF waiver and the Level 1 waiver now?</p>	<p>Effective 7/1/22, the Level One Budgets will be per 12-month waiver span: \$45,000 for adults and \$30,000 for children. Funding limitations for Adult Day Waiver services and Non-Medical Transportation are no longer in place. This overarching budget encompasses all services that the person may need to receive such as Homemaker Personal Care, Transportation, day services, etc. The AAI acuity groups are still used for rate setting purposes. These budgets will take affect at the person’s next waiver year that begins on or after 7/1/22. Until their current span ends, they will have the budget flexibilities afforded by Appendix K. New services can be added to current plans through the team process. The Emergency Funding benefit will no longer be available. There are still some services differences between the Level One waiver and the SELF waiver, but the funding structure is the same.</p>