



Division Update for Individuals, Families and Providers

April 24, 2025

Agenda

- Next DDD Update Webinar
- National Core Indicators (NCI) Surveys
- VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition Update
- REMINDER: Agency with Choice Per-Member, Per-Month (PMPM) Rate Increase
- Prevocational Training Changes
- Family Networking Sessions – Spring 2025
- Virtual Peer-to-Peer Networking Session
- Dual-Diagnosis: A Vision for Better Mental Health Care for the IDD Population
- Resources

Next DDD Update Webinar

- May Update Webinar:
 - Thursday, May 22, 2025 – 10:30 am
 - [Register for the May Webinar](#)
- The 2025 schedule of DDD Update Webinars, including registration links, is available on the Division's [Public Update Meetings](#) webpage

NCI Surveys Must Be Completed By June 30, 2025



NCI State of the Workforce Survey

- Invitations emailed to eligible providers March 2025 – to email address on file in iRecord
- Providers should contact DDD.NCI@dhs.nj.gov if they did not receive the invitation



NCI Family Survey

- Letter with personal link mailed to family members of individuals receiving at least one service in addition to Support Coordination
- Family members can contact DDD.NCI@dhs.nj.gov with questions or to request a hard copy survey in English or another language

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

- DDD Vendor Fiscal/Employer Agent (VF/EA) Self-Direction Model is transitioning from Public Partnerships LLC (PPL) as the fiscal intermediary to Acumen.
- Transition enrollments with Acumen will happen at staggered intervals over the next four months.

Cohort

- Every individual who participates in the VF/EA Model has been assigned by Acumen to one of five transition enrollment groups, called **cohorts**.

Enrollment Window

- Each of the five cohorts has been assigned a different window of time in which to complete their transition enrollment, called their **enrollment window**.

Enrollment Start and End Dates

- Each enrollment window has an **enrollment start date and enrollment end date**.

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

Cohorts 1 – 4 include individuals who have **vendor services only** and no Self-Directed Employees (SDE).

Cohort	Enrollment Start Date	Enrollment End Date
Cohort 1	May 4, 2025	May 16, 2025
Cohort 2	May 17, 2025	May 30, 2025
Cohort 3	May 30, 2025	June 14, 2025
Cohort 4	June 15, 2025	June 30, 2025

Cohort 5 includes all individuals who have **one or more SDEs** (with or without a vendor service)

Cohort	Enrollment Start Date	Enrollment End Date
Cohort 5	July 7, 2025	August 1, 2025

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

Community Vendor Services (Cohorts 1 – 4)

- Assistive Technology
- Environmental Modification
- Goods & Services
- Natural Supports Training
- Transportation-Single Passenger
- Vehicle Modification

Self-Directed Employee Services (Cohort 5)

- Community-Based Supports
- Individual Supports
- Respite
- Interpreter Services
- Supports Brokerage-Self-Directed Employee
- Transportation-Self-Directed Employee

****The VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary transition applies only to services reimbursed through PPL. It does not apply to services being reimbursed through Easterseals NJ (in the Agency with Choice Self-Direction Model) or the Personal Preference Program (PPP) administered by the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS)****

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

- On April 15, 2025, Acumen distributed the following communications by email to those with a valid email address on file and by mail to all others.
 - [FI Transition Update and Cohort Assignment Notification](#)
 - Sent to all individuals (or the person identified as their authorized representative and/or their employer of record) who have (or recently had) a vendor service paid through PPL and/or one or more Self-Directed Employees paid through PPL (all five cohorts).
 - [Vendor Enrollment Notification](#)
 - Sent to all community vendors who are providing or recently provided one or more vendor services for any individual in any of the five cohorts.
 - [Support Coordinator Acumen Transition Update Notification](#)
 - Sent to every support coordinator who serves individuals in any of the five cohorts.

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

- If you are an individual who participates in the VF/EA Self-Direction Model (or their authorized representative or their employer of record), with PPL as the fiscal intermediary, and you did not receive a Cohort Assignment Notification or misplaced it, it is important that you contact the Acumen Customer Service Team as soon as possible and do the following:
 - Provide them with an up-to-date email address
 - Ask them which Cohort you are assigned to
 - Ask them for the start date and end date of your Cohort Enrollment Window

Acumen Customer Service Team

Phone: 833-892-0413 | Email: enrollment@acumen2.net

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

- All emailed communications from Acumen would have been/will be received from the following sender name and email address:

Acumen Fiscal Agent - acumen no reply <no-reply@acumen2.net>

- We recommend that all individuals, authorized representatives, employers of record, vendors, and self-directed employees in the VF/EA Self-Direction Model, with PPL as the fiscal intermediary, add this email to their safe sender list so they do not miss important Acumen communications.

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition



What if:

- I did not receive or misplaced a Cohort Assignment Notice, Enrollment Reminder Notice, Vendor Transition Notice, and/or Good-to-Go Letter?
- I need help enrolling
- I have questions



Contact Acumen Customer Service Team

- Phone: 833-892-0413
- Email: enrollment@acumen2.net

VF/EA Fiscal Intermediary Transition

Where to go on the web for FI Transition information

- [DDD | 2025 Fiscal Intermediary Transition \(PPL to Acumen\)](#)
 - Transition Updates
 - Transition FAQ
 - Links to communications distributed by Acumen
 - Cohort Details and Enrollment Windows
- [Acumen-New Jersey](#)
 - Training Materials (How to enroll, How to access DCI web portal, How to submit hours and invoices, etc.)
 - Information for: Employers/Authorized Representatives, Self-Directed Employees, Vendors, Support Coordinators, Supports Brokers

REMINDER: Agency with Choice (AWC) Per-Member, Per-Month Rate Increase

- For persons enrolled in the Agency with Choice (AWC) Self-Direction Model administered by Easterseals NJ – The AWC per-member, per-month (PMPM) rate increase will occur effective **May 1, 2025**, as follows:
 - DDD IT will complete iRecord backend adjustments to impacted prior authorizations (PAs) on or about May 1, 2025.
 - Updated PAs will be auto-generated, allowing iRecord to begin deducting the increased PMPM rates from AWC participant up-to budgets on or about May 1, 2025.

REMINDER: Agency with Choice (AWC) Per-Member, Per-Month Rate Increases

- DDD anticipates that the up-to budgets of most individuals who participate in the Agency with Choice Self-Directed Employee Model will accommodate the PMPM rate increases without the need for Support Coordinators to adjust plans.
- Individuals whose up-to budget has already been exhausted will need to work with their SC and planning team to determine whether plan adjustments can be made to accommodate the PMPM rate increases at the time of annual plan renewal.

AWC Per-Member, Per-Month (PMPM) Rates Effective May 1, 2025

PMPM 1

- One or more SDEs working 0-40 hours per week and not electing health benefits = **\$266.34**

PMPM 2

- One SDE working less than 30 hours per week but 30+ hours per week and not electing health benefits = **\$493.98**

PMPM 3

- One SDE working 30+ hours per week and electing health benefits **OR** two or more SDEs working less than 30 hours per week but 30+ hours per week and electing health benefits = **\$646.62**

PMPM 4

- Two or more SDEs working 30+ hours per week and electing health benefits = **\$987.82**

Prevocational Training Changes

New/updated features related to Prevocational Training services are projected to go live in iRecord on **June 2, 2025**.

- 1) DVRS Referral Confirmation Code:** When a new participant is added to iRecord, the support coordinator must either upload an Employment Determination Form (F3 form) or enter a DVRS Referral Confirmation Code. Before adding Prevocational Training (or any other employment service) as a new service, the support coordinator must:
 - Make sure a current F3 form, dated within the last plan year, is uploaded in iRecord.
 - If there is no F3 or the F3 is not current, enter a DVRS Referral Confirmation Code.

Prevocational Training Changes

- 2) Continuation of Prevocational Training Justification:** If an individual has had Prevocational Training in their plan for **two plan years**, regardless of the number of weekly units authorized, the support coordinator must submit electronically through iRecord a Continuation of Prevocational Training Justification form. Before doing so, they must:
- Make sure a current F3 form, dated within the last plan year, is uploaded in iRecord.
 - If there is no F3 or the F3 is not current, enter a DVRS Referral Confirmation Code.

Prevocational Training Changes

- iRecord will not allow a Support Coordinator to add Prevocational Training beyond two plan years unless the **Continuation of Prevocational Training Justification** form has been submitted to and approved by DDD, and a current F3 or DVRS Referral Confirmation Code is on file.
- The **Continuation of Prevocational Training Justification** should be submitted *at least six weeks* before the date the service is needed.
- DDD will approve continuations for periods of 4, 6, or 12 months, depending on the individual's needs.



The DDD Office of Transition to Adult Life and Employment has scheduled a webinar overview of the upcoming changes related to Prevocational Training. Register at the link below.

[Prevocational Training Services: What's Changing?](#)

Friday, May 16, 2025, Noon – 1 PM

- All are welcome to attend, but the target audience is:
 - ✓ Support Coordinators
 - ✓ Individuals who are receiving or are interested in receiving Prevocational Training and their family members and caregivers
 - ✓ Agencies that are or are interested in becoming DDD/Medicaid-approved to provide Prevocational Training

Family Networking Sessions – Spring 2025

The DDD [Office of Education on Self-Directed Services \(OESDS\)](#) hosts networking sessions for people and families who are:

- self-directing services
- interested in self-direction

All sessions are held in-person unless otherwise noted.

Advance registration is required for all sessions.

Download/print the [flyer](#).

Date and Time	County and Location	Registration Link
Tues., April 22 6-7:30 p.m.	Statewide VIRTUAL via ZOOM	Register for April 22 Virtual Session
Tues., May 6 1 – 3 p.m.	Bergen County Bergen County Special Services School District	Register for May 6 Session
Wed., May 28 1 – 3 p.m.	Monmouth County Monmouth County Library	Register for May 28 Session
Tues., June 3 1 – 3 p.m.	Cape May and Atlantic Counties Ocean City Free Public Library	Register for June 3 Session
Wed., June 24 1 – 3 p.m.	Burlington County Burlington County Library	Register for June 24 Session

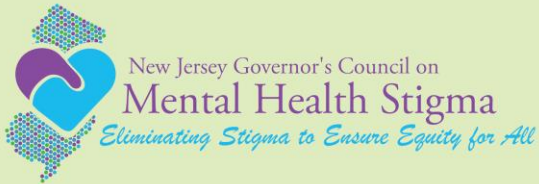
Virtual Peer-to-Peer Networking Session

An opportunity for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are (*or are interested in*) self-directing some or all of their DDD services to meet their peers, share resources, and discuss their experiences with self-direction.

When: Tuesday, June 2, 2025, 6 – 7:30 PM

Where: Online, via Zoom

Register: [Virtual Peer-to-Peer Networking Session](#)



Dual-Diagnosis: A Vision for Better Mental Health Care for the IDD Population

The New Jersey Governor's Council on Mental Health Stigma invites you to a virtual Learning Collaborative on Zoom to discuss ideas for developing new mental healthcare services for persons with intellectual/developmental disabilities (IDD).

DATE May 14, 2025 | **TIME** 10:00 am - 11:30 am

SCHEDULED SPEAKERS:

Cathy Chin

Executive Director, Alliance for the Betterment of Citizens with Disabilities (ABCD), will share current advances in advocacy for this population.

Dr. Daniel C. Balboni, PsyD

Matheny Medical and Educational Center, will outline a vision for a new specialization to train more clinicians to serve the IDD population.

Small groups, including you, will answer, "What does your organization or community need in terms of better and more appropriate mental healthcare services to serve the IDD population?"

TO REGISTER:

njamhaa.site-ym.com/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1935990



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Cynthia Chazen, Coordinator of Community Outreach and Partnerships
New Jersey Governor's Council on Mental Health Stigma
✉ cchazen@njamhaa.org



Dual-Diagnosis: A Vision for Better Mental Health Care for the IDD Population

- May 14, 2025, 10 AM to 11:30 PM
- New Jersey Governor's Council on Mental Health Stigma is holding a virtual Learning Collaborative dedicated to the discussion of best practices and new ideas for mental health services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. *Open to all.*
- Register: <https://njamhaa.site-ym.com/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1935990>

Resources

Community Resources

- [Disability Rights New Jersey](#)
800-922-7233 (toll-free in New Jersey only)
- [Ombudsman for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities and their Families](#)
609-984-7764
- [New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities](#)
800-792-8858
- [The Boggs Center on Disability and Human Development](#)
732-235-9300

DDD Resources

- For issues, call the DDD [Community Services Office](#) for your county or 800-832-9173.
- For routine questions:
DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov
- To report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation: call 800-832-9173, then press 1.