

Help Finding Work

For Providers

Braided Funding Options for Employment Services

The Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) provides State and Federally funded vocational services that help individuals obtain and maintain employment. If an individual has an employment-related waiver, they will need to use OVR services first for employment-related services and a referral from their Supports Coordinator (SC) to OVR. Once an individual is competitively employed, the team will work together to determine when job stability has been achieved and the date when the employment services will transition to waiver-funded employment services. For more information, contact the Philadelphia OVR at **215-560-1900** or visit DLI.PA.gov and search "Vocational Rehabilitation."

The Ticket to Work program is run through the Social Security Administration (SSA) and is for adults who receive SSA benefits based on disability. The program provides free employment services to help beneficiaries obtain and maintain employment. Beneficiaries can choose to work with Vocational Rehabilitation or an Employment Network (EN). The goal of the Ticket to Work program is for beneficiaries to earn enough income to become self-sufficient and reduce their reliance on SSA cash benefits. While beneficiaries are using the Ticket to Work program and making timely progress, they are also excused from medical reviews from SSA. The Ticket to Work program can be used as part of a braided funding approach that utilizes multiple funding sources for getting the needs of individuals met. Social Security's Ticket to Work program pays ENs when they have assisted SSA beneficiaries to obtain and maintain employment at significant levels. Payments to ENs are non-restricted and are not based on the fee-for-service model. Payments are often used to help close funding gaps for individuals in need.

For more information, contact the Ticket to Work Hotline at **866-968-7842** or send an email to Support@ChooseWork.ssa.gov, or visit [Employment Networks – yourtickettowork.ssa.gov](http://EmploymentNetworks-yourtickettowork.ssa.gov).

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The Pennsylvania Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) Waivers

ODP waivers are based on health and safety needs and/or graduate initiatives and can help to fund employment services. There are several different types of ODP waivers.

The Pennsylvania **Consolidated Waiver** is designed to help individuals with an intellectual disability, autism, or developmental disability live more independently in their homes and communities and provides various services that promote community living, including self-directed service models and traditional, agency-based service models. Enrollment is based on the availability and prioritization of those individuals with service needs that exceed the Community Living Waiver limit.

The Pennsylvania **Community Living Waiver** supports individuals with an intellectual disability, autism, or developmental disability to live more independently in their homes and communities through the provision of a variety of services that promote community living, employment, communication, self-direction, choice, and control. Community Living Waivers have an individual cost limit of \$85,000 per person per fiscal year (Supports Coordination is excluded from this limit).

The Pennsylvania **Person and Family Directed Support Waiver** is designed to help individuals with an intellectual disability, autism, or developmental disability to live more independently in their homes and communities and to provide a variety of services that promote community living, including self-directed service models and traditional, agency-based service models. Person/Family Directed Support Waivers have an individual cost limit of \$41,000 per person per fiscal year.

- Excludes Supports Coordination and Supports Broker Services.
- The limit can be exceeded by \$15,000 for Advanced Supported Employment or Supported Employment services.

The above ODP Waivers have eligibility requirements. For more information on eligibility requirements, visit dhs.pa.gov and search "Everyday Lives Waiver Services" or contact the ODP Customer Service Line at **888-565-9435**. Individuals are also required to register with Intellectual disAbility Services.

For information on registering with Intellectual disAbility Services, call **215-685-4677** or email IDSRegistration@Phila.gov.

For waiver enrollment, individuals need to be connected to a Supports Coordination Organization and prioritized for waiver services (talk to your SC about possible waiver enrollment).