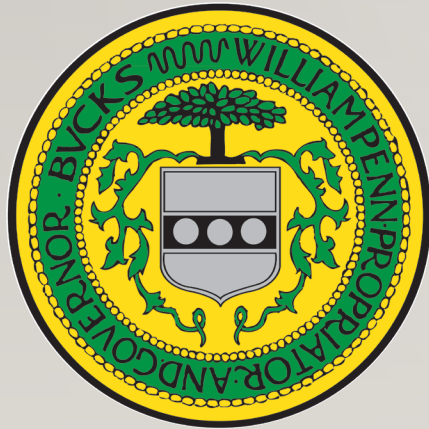


# INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY/AUTISM (ID/A) SERVICES



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BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH/  
DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY 9, 2021

# INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY & AUTISM

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- ***Intellectual disability***

- A condition characterized by significant limitations in both intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior
- Effects many everyday social and practical skills
- Emerges during the developmental period (birth to 22.)

- ***Autism***

- A condition characterized by significant deficits in
- Social communication/social interaction
- Restricted/repetitive patterns of behavior, interests or activities
- Fully emerges during the developmental period (birth to 22.)

# INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY/AUTISM (ID/A) SERVICES

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- ID/A services are overseen by the Pennsylvania Office of Developmental Programs (ODP)
- Services are administered at a local level
  - Bucks County Department of BH/DP

# ID/A SERVICE CHRONOLOGY

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- The following is a chronology of what an individual/family can expect when pursuing ID/A services through Bucks BH/DP

# **ID/A SERVICES CHRONOLOGY**

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I. APPLICATION FOR INTAKE AND REGISTRATION

II. ELIGIBILITY REVIEW AND DETERMINATION

III. REGISTRATION AND SUPPORTS COORDINATION ASSIGNMENT

IV. ASSESSMENT AND PRIORITIZATION



# **ID/A SERVICES CHRONOLOGY**

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V. WAIVER ENROLLMENT (BASED UPON PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA AND AVAILABILITY OF CAPACITY)

VI. WAIVER SERVICE REQUEST(S) (SERVICE & PROVIDER)

VII. MONITORING OF WAIVER SERVICES

# APPLICATION FOR INTAKE/REGISTRATION

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- Individuals diagnosed with intellectual disability and/or autism
  - By the age of 22
  - May be eligible for intellectual disability/autism (ID/A) intake and registration.
- The first step in the intake process
  - Contact our office and request ID/A intake.
  - ID/A intake line at **215- 444-2847**.
- You will be sent a letter
  - Outlining the types of documentation that you need to submit
  - Associated timeframes for documentation submission.

# ELIGIBILITY REVIEW & DETERMINATION

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- Intellectual Disability-Eligibility Criteria for Registration
- Full-scale IQ score of 70 or below on a standardized intelligence test.
- Substantial functional limitations in two or more areas, based upon a standardized assessment of adaptive functioning (either the Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales [VABS] or Adaptive Behavioral Assessment Scales [ABAS])
- Diagnosis of intellectual disability from a qualified professional



# ELIGIBILITY REVIEW & DETERMINATION

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- Autism Spectrum Disorder-Eligibility Criteria for Registration
- Applicants with autism must be enrolled in Medical Assistance
- Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder, based upon the results of a standardized diagnostic tool.
- Substantial functional limitations, based upon a standardized assessment of adaptive functioning (either the Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales [VABS] or Adaptive Behavioral Assessment Scales [ABAS])

# REGISTRATION & SUPPORTS COORDINATION ASSIGNMENT

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- Individuals found eligible for ID/A intake and registration
  - Receive **Supports Coordination** services.
- Supports Coordination is a critical service that involves the primary functions of
  - Locating, coordinating, and monitoring needed services and supports for participants.

# REGISTRATION & SUPPORTS COORDINATION ASSIGNMENT

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- The most important element of quality Supports Coordination is
  - Building relationships.
  - When strong relationships are developed
    - The quality of supports and services improves.
  - Building relationships is not a separate and distinct activity
    - It is integral to each function the support coordinator performs.

# REGISTRATION & SUPPORTS COORDINATION ASSIGNMENT

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- Locating services and supports consists of
  - Assistance to the participant and his or her family in linking, arranging for, and obtaining services
  - Specified in the service plan, including
    - Resources in the community
    - Competitive integrated employment
    - Needed medical, social, habilitation, and
    - Participant direction opportunities.

# REGISTRATION & SUPPORTS COORDINATION ASSIGNMENT

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- Supports Coordinators may also assist individuals and families in
  - identifying and developing community resources
  - Through the use of LifeCourse Tools
- The LifeCourse tools are long term planning tools
  - Help individuals and families identify a trajectory for achieving the life someone wants
  - Avoiding the outcomes an individual/family does not want
  - Helps identify resources for progressing towards desired goals



# ASSESSMENT & PRIORITIZATION

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- The Supports Coordinator works with an individual's support team
  - To develop an Individual Support Plan (ISP)
    - This document thoroughly documents the individual's assessed needs
    - In a variety of areas.
- The vast majority of ID/A services are rendered through
  - Enrollment in one of the ID/A Home and Community-Based Waiver programs
    - **(Person Family Directed Support Waiver/Community Living Waiver/Consolidated Waiver)**

# ASSESSMENT & PRIORITIZATION

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- Intellectual Disability-Eligibility Criteria for ID/A Waivers
- Full-scale IQ score of 70 or below on a standardized intelligence test.
- Substantial functional limitations in three or more areas, based upon a standardized assessment of adaptive functioning (either the Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales [VABS] or Adaptive Behavioral Assessment Scales [ABAS])
- Diagnosis of intellectual disability from a qualified professional

# ASSESSMENT & PRIORITIZATION

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- Autism Spectrum Disorder-Eligibility Criteria for ID/A Waivers
- Criteria for waiver eligibility is identical to the criteria for registration
- Autism applicants must be enrolled in Medical Assistance
- Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder, based upon the results of a standardized diagnostic tool.
- Substantial functional limitations, based upon a standardized assessment of adaptive functioning (either the Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales [VABS] or Adaptive Behavioral Assessment Scales [ABAS])

# ASSESSMENT & PRIORITIZATION

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- There is a waiting list for
  - Enrollment into these programs
  - Access to these programs is based upon
    - The state's prioritization rules and
    - Availability of capacity.

Your Supports Coordinator will assist you in

- Completing the PUNS (Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services.)
- The PUNS is the 'waiting list'
  - For receiving capacity for one of the ID/A Medicaid Waivers.



# WAIVER ENROLLMENT

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- Enrollment in the waiver is based upon
  - Prioritization criteria and
  - Availability of capacity
- The county is allocated
  - Specific capacity in each waiver program, by the state.
- Individuals may receive capacity in a waiver program
  - Based upon their assessed needs
  - The state's prioritization rules and
  - The availability of capacity.



# WAIVER ENROLLMENT

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- Prioritization takes into account
  - The supports that are available to an individual through other sources.
- **As a result, this ID/A Medicaid Waiver capacity is (almost exclusively)**
  - **Reserved for individuals 21 years of age or older.**
- Individuals enrolled in an ID/A waiver program can
  - *Request* waiver services for inclusion in their Individualized Support Plan.
- They also choose a Willing and Qualified
  - Service provider to render those services.

# MONITORING OF WAIVER SERVICES

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- Supports Coordinators (SCs) are required to perform
  - Regular SC Individual monitoring(s), for individuals receiving waiver services
    - On an ongoing basis to ensure that the ISP
    - Continues to reflect what is important to and for the individual and that it
    - Continues to address the individual's needs.
- Supports Coordinators also perform SC Individual monitoring(s)
  - For individuals who are registered, but not enrolled in a waiver.
- These monitoring(s) are conducted less frequently
  - Than those for waiver participants.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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- For additional information on the ID/A Service System,
  - Please visit [www.myodp.org](http://www.myodp.org) .
- If you have any questions or concerns about ID/A intake,
  - Please feel free to contact Stephen Caughie ID/A Director at 215-444-2844 or [sbcaughie@buckscounty.org](mailto:sbcaughie@buckscounty.org)

# REFERENCES

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- Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, American Psychiatric Association
- American Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD)[<https://www.aaidd.org/intellectual-disability/definition>]
- Pennsylvania Department of Human Services ([www.dhs.pa.gov](http://www.dhs.pa.gov))
- MyODP ([www.myodp.org](http://www.myodp.org))