

Division of Developmental Disabilities Assessment

A NEW WAY TO

Plan for services and supports for people with developmental disabilities

Why is a DDD assessment needed?

The DDD Assessment is designed to discover the individual support needs of each person who is assessed.

The DDD Assessment will help case managers plan for services and supports to meet the needs of people with developmental disabilities. Having data on unmet needs may lead to increased funding for DDD services.

The state legislature makes decisions about funding and resources for people with developmental disabilities. When everyone has their needs assessed with the same assessment tool, the legislature and other decision makers are more likely to find the information reliable and useful.

How will it help the person with developmental disabilities?

The new assessment will measure each person's individual support needs to participate in a variety of activities.

In addition, it will measure the person's support needs in the areas of behaviors, supported employment, medical care, and caregiver needs.

Who will take part in the assessment?

The Case Manager will meet face-to-face with the person with developmental disabilities and at least one other person who knows him or her well.

How long will the assessment take?

The assessment interview usually takes from 2 to 4 hours depending on several factors. For example, a first assessment takes longer than a review; and assessing for Medicaid Personal Care adds time.

How often will the assessment happen?

People who get paid services will have an assessment each year.

People who do not have paid services will have an initial assessment and may have periodic assessments to update information as resources allow.

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) will begin using the new DDD Assessment on June 1, 2007.

If you have questions:

Call your case manager or see our website at:
www.1dshs.wa.gov/ddd/CAP.shtml

What happens if the person does not want to have this assessment?

If the person lives in the community and does not have an assessment, it is difficult to know what supports are needed. Starting June 2007, DDD cannot authorize services without a DDD assessment.

What is the DDD Assessment?

There are three sections in the DDD assessment:

1. The Support Assessment Module

All clients of DDD will be assessed using this module.

This module includes a special part for all clients age 16 and older called the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS). The SIS is a nationally recognized tool used in many states to measure the support needs of people with disabilities. Visit www.siswebsite.org/index.wv to learn more about the SIS.

This module includes an assessment of caregiver needs, behavior issues and protective supervision.

If the person will not receive paid services, the DDD Assessment ends here and the person is given a copy of the results.

2. The Service Level Assessment Module

DDD clients who are authorized to receive a DDD paid service will be asked questions from this module. The answers to these questions help case managers determine the services the person will receive.

3. The Individual Support Plan

All DDD clients who are receiving services will have an individual support plan describing the services they are authorized to receive. This plan will be printed and given to the client at the end of the assessment and planning session.

What if someone doesn't agree with the results of the assessment?

If someone disagrees with the results of the DDD Assessment, an appeal can be filed. Your case manager will give you information on your appeal rights for department decisions based on your DDD Assessment.

How is the DDD Assessment different from the MPC Assessment used for Medicaid personal Care?

The MPC Assessment was developed only to assess the needs of people who need Medicaid Personal Care services. The MPC Assessment is still used to measure personal care needs and is included as a part of the DDD assessment.

The Assessment will identify each person's individual strengths and support needs.