

Self-Direction & DODD Waivers

3/8/2023

Presented by:

Joelyn Karlson, Policy Manager

Medicaid Development and Administration

Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

Sarah Davies, Director of Relationships

GT Independence



Self-direction is based on the concept of self-determination.

It helps people of all ages, with all types of abilities, maintain their independence at home by controlling **who, what, when, and how** services are provided to them.

What does self-direction mean in Ohio?

Culture Shift

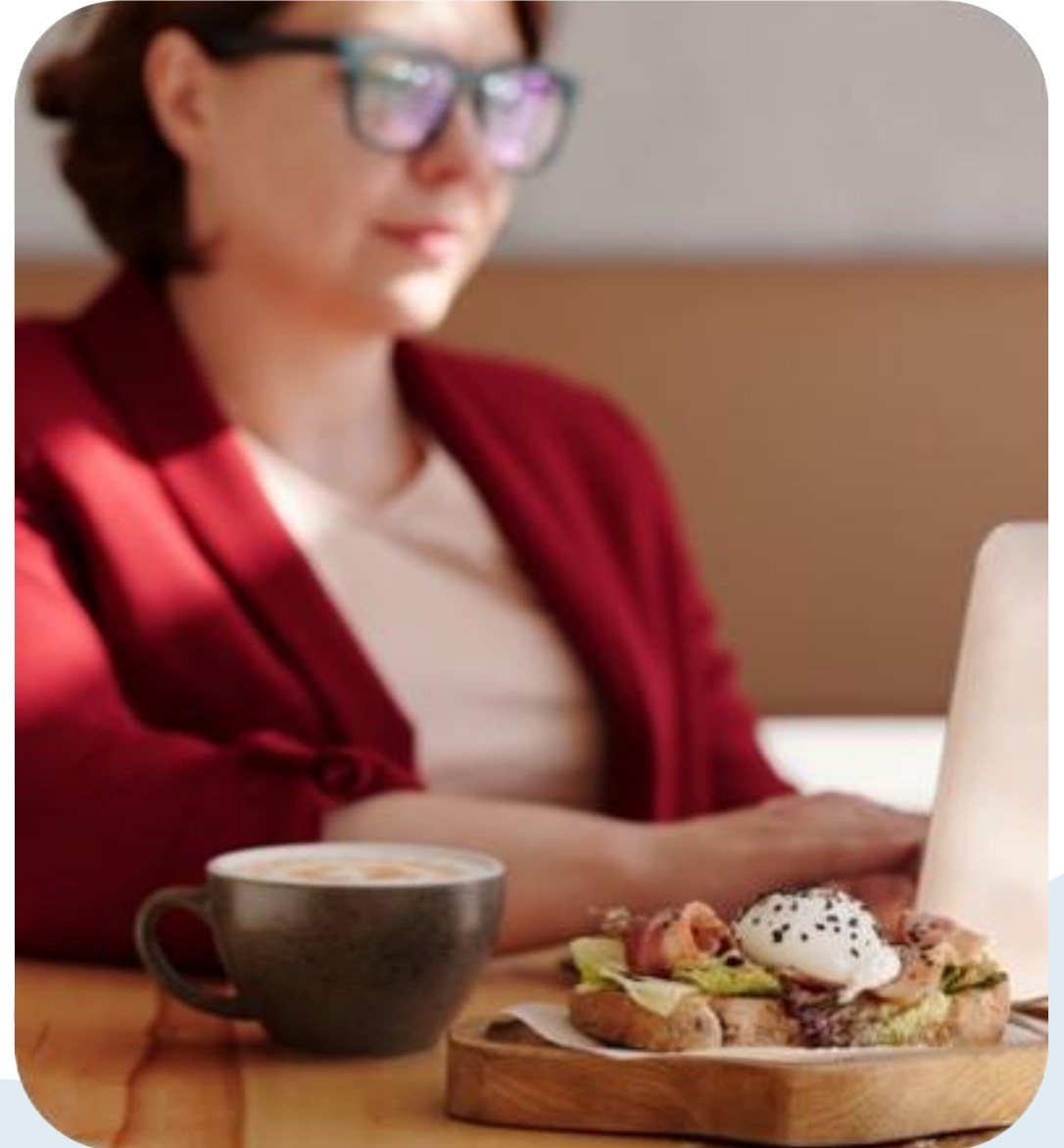
- System
- Individuals

Alleviates some of the workforce crisis burden

- Individuals know people who can help them
- Easier process to provide services (in some cases)

Key Terms in Ohio Self-Determination

- County Board (CB)
- Service and Support Administrator (SSA)
- Waiver
- Eligibility
- Individualized Service Plan (ISP)
- Financial Management Services Entity (FMS)



Key Roles

- Person receiving services
- Representative or managing party (a trusted person)
- SSA/County Board/Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities
- Financial Management Services (FMS) provider



What does self-direction mean in Ohio?

Choosing self-directed services means choosing to take more responsibility of your services. You start this by choosing budget authority or employer authority or both, when available

- ★ **Budget authority** gives you more choices about how funds are used and how much you pay for services.
- ★ **Employer authority** allows you to have more control over your providers
- ★ **Rights and Responsibilities!** Both come with more responsibility for the participant.

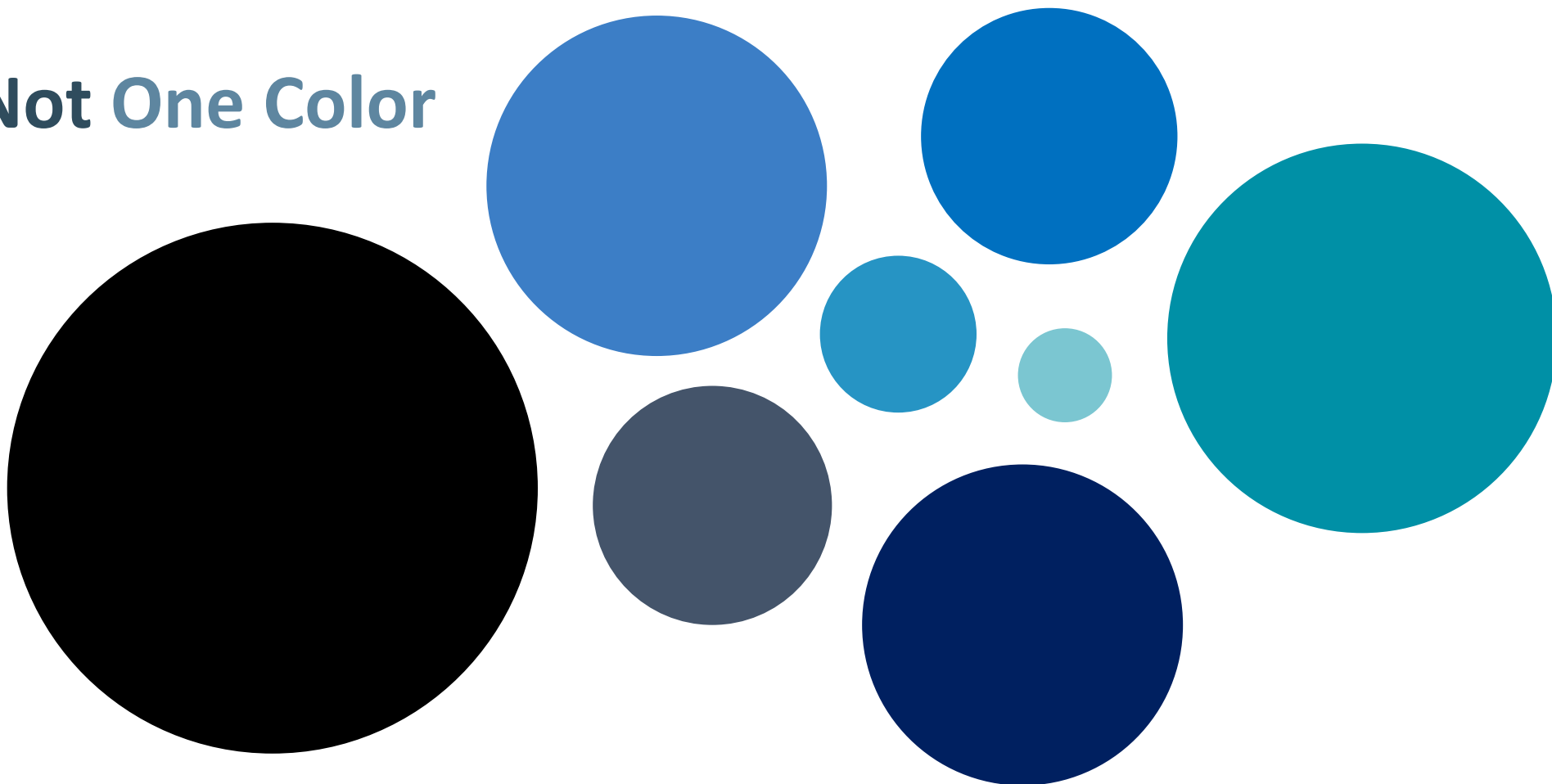


Know Yourself and Your Needs

- Have an idea of what services you need.
- What goals do you want to work on related to your disability?
- What things do you need to stay independent in your home or community?
- Is self-direction right for me?

gt

Blue Is Not One Color



Who Can Help Someone Self-Direct?

Self-Direction is not for everyone

- Negotiate rate (as applicable)
- Sign off on paperwork
- Train Staff
- Collect receipts.

Adult

- Person can do it themselves
- May designate family/friend/neighbor/coworker
- Support Broker may help (if on SELF Waiver)

Minor Child

- Parent or guardian may choose to self-direct
- FMS helps
- Support Broker may help (if on SELF Waiver)

The person helping self direct CANNOT be the person getting paid

DODD WAIVER Comparison Chart

WAIVER COMPARISON CHART 2022

Service Name	Description	Level 1	IO	SELF
Adult Day Services	Helps to build connections around the place where a person lives, or in their community based on their interests and outcomes.	✓	✓	✓
Assistive Technology	Interactive electronic item, device, product, system, or engineered solution, that address needs/outcomes identified in the service plan.	✓	✓	✓
Career Planning	Helps find jobs in the community, help to start a business, finding technology to help with a job, and work with the employer for training the job.	✓	✓	✓
Clinical/Therapeutic Intervention	This service can help a person meet the needs identified in a Functional Behavioral Assessment through counseling, strategies, and training.	✓		✓
Community Respite	Provides a break to caregivers by giving temporary services at recreation centers, camps, and other community location where organized activities occur.	✓	✓	✓
Community Transition	Provides payment for one time household start-up expenses for a person moving from an intermediate care facility or nursing facility to a community bases setting.		✓	
Environmental Accessibility Adaptations	Changes to a person's home that helps them to function with greater independence.	✓	✓	
Functional Behavioral Assessment	Helps a person understand why they do the things that they do and how their environment influences their actions.	✓		✓
Group Employment Support	Help a person in a small group of people with the same goals, learn new job skills that can help them get a job in the community.	✓	✓	✓
Home-Delivered Meals	Provides meals that are prepared, packaged, and delivered to the person's home for dietary needs.	✓	✓	✓
Homemaker/Personal Care	Helps with dressing, keeping clean, making food, light cleaning, going in the community, assistance with obtaining medical/health care services.	✓	✓	
Individual Employment Support	Help the person learn how to do a new job or help get better at a job they have had for a while, follow along.	✓	✓	✓

WAIVER COMPARISON CHART | AJR 3/31/2022



Department of
Developmental Disabilities

DODD WAIVER Comparison Chart

Service Name	Description	Level 1	IO	SELF
Informal Respite	Provides a short-term break for family members in the person's home, the home of a friend or family member, or a site of community activities.	✓		
Interpreter Services	This service helps a person communicate when they are hearing-impaired.		✓	
Money Management	Helps a person manage personal and financial affairs, training to assist a person to improve related skills, and to maintain eligibility for benefits.	✓	✓	
Non-Medical Transportation	This service provides transportation to and from employment, adult day or other adult day service, volunteer, internship, or practicum.	✓	✓	✓
Nutrition	Helps a person to ensure they are eating the right foods to be healthy through a nutritionist.		✓	
On-Site/On-Call	A service to keep a provider nearby during sleeping hours in case homemaker personal care support is needed typically through the night.	✓	✓	✓
Participant-Directed Goods and Services	Includes services, equipment, or supplies that are not provided through the Medicaid State Plan services or any other waiver service and could be accessed or purchased by anyone in the community.	✓		✓
Participant-Directed Homemaker/Personal Care	Helps with dressing, keeping clean, making food, managing money in a budget, going in the community, getting medical/health care services.	✓	✓	✓
Participant/Family Stability Assistance	Payment for fees/materials related to training and counseling that helps families live together, support each other, and access community resources.	✓		✓
Remote Support	Combines technology and direct care to support a person in their home with an off-site caregiver to monitor needs.	✓	✓	✓
Residential Respite	Provides a break to caregivers by giving temporary services at an intermediate care facility, a licensed residential facility, or a home where respite services are provided by an agency.	✓	✓	✓
Self-Directed Transportation	Enhances independence and is available around the clock, weekends, and holidays, to get on-demand and scheduled transportation.	✓	✓	✓
Shared Living	Variety of personal care and support provided in a private home by an unrelated or related, care provider who lives in the home and whose primary, legal residence is that home.		✓	

DODD WAIVER Comparison Chart

Service Name	Description	Level 1	IO	SELF
Social Work	Assists the person and his/her family with emotional problems or social needs that will allow them to live in the community.		✓	
Specialized Medical Equipment & Supplies	Includes devices, controls, or appliances that allow a person to do daily living activities, help them communicate, are necessary for life support, and the supplies and equipment necessary for upkeep.	✓	✓	
Support Brokerage	Someone paid through the waiver and chosen to help manage the waiver budget and to help find services and support staff.			✓
Transportation	Helps with transportation to waiver services and other community services, activities, and resources during times of homemaker/personal care support.	✓	✓	✓
Vocational Habilitation	Provides supports for a person to learn work skills for a job in the community.	✓	✓	✓
Waiver Nursing	Hands-on care by a nurse for health-related services that can only be performed by a nurse.	Through Ohio Medicaid State Plan	✓	Through Ohio Medicaid State Plan
Waiver Nursing Delegation	Specific nursing tasks may be transferred from a licensed nurse to an unlicensed person through training and oversight from that licensed nurse to staff.	✓	✓	✓

Self-Directed Services

	IO	L1	SELF
Participant Directed HPC (incl. OSOC)	YES	YES	YES
Self-Directed Transportation	YES	YES	YES
Clinical/Therapeutic Intervention	NO	YES	YES
Participant Directed Goods & Services (PDGS)	NO	YES (\$2500 CAP)	YES
Support Broker	NO	NO	YES

Budget and Employer Authority

	BUDGET AUTHORITY	EMPLOYER AUTHORITY
Participant Directed HPC (incl. OSOC)	YES	YES
Self-Directed Transportation	YES	YES
Clinical/Therapeutic Intervention	YES	NO
Participant Directed Goods & Services (PDGS)	YES	NO
Support Broker	YES	YES

Provider Certification

Participant/Self-Directed Services

- Participant Directed Homemaker/Personal Care (PDHPC)
 - Requires DODD Certification
- Self-Directed Transportation
 - Does NOT require DODD Certification

PD-HPC

- PD-HPC includes “the coordinated provision of a variety of services, supports, and supervision necessary to ensure the health and welfare of an individual who lives in the community”
- Provider chosen must first be certified by DODD
- Referral to FMS (GT Independence)
 - Person receiving the service gets enrolled
 - Provider, with DODD certification, gets enrolled
 - GT will need information from the PD HPC provider
- FMS (GT Independence) can help you choose:
 - Common Law Employer
 - Co-Employer
 - Negotiate rates within parameters

Self-Directed Transportation

- Enhances a person's independence
- Available anytime
- Can be scheduled or on demand
- Destination
 - Employment
 - Volunteer Activities
 - Social Events
 - Appointments (medical or business)

Self-Directed Transportation

- Two options to use SD Transportation
 - Public Transportation (Uber, Lyft, Cabs, Buses)
 - Pre-paid vouchers/tickets/SD Transaction Card
 - Friend/Family/Neighbor/Co-Worker
 - Enrolled through the FMS (GT Independence)
 - There is paperwork required
 - Not certified by DODD
 - If “per trip”, the rate is negotiated by you and the person you are hiring--\$12 per trip is the maximum per trip rate
 - If “per mile” the person agrees to the standard per mile rates

Participant Directed Goods & Services (PDGS)

- Services, equipment, or supplies not otherwise provided through the waiver or through Medicaid State Plan services that address an identified need and subsequent outcome in the service plan
 - Increase the participant's safety in the home environment
 - Direct benefit of the individual in achieving at least one of the following:
 - Improve cognitive, social, or behavioral functioning
 - Maintain the ability of the individual to remain in the community
 - Promote community inclusion
 - Develop or maintain personal, social, or physical skills
 - Decrease the need for other Medicaid services, or
 - Increase independence

Participant Directed Goods & Services (PDGS)

- Only in the SELF and Level 1 Waivers
- Payment for PDGS purchases is made by FMS (GT Independence)
- SELF Waiver
 - No Cap (except waiver budget maximum)
 - Includes Home Mods/Equipment
 - Provider not required to be DODD/Medicaid Certified
- Level 1 Waiver
 - \$2500 cap
 - Home Mods/Equipment are a separate service
 - Provider not required to be DODD/Medicaid Certified

Participant Directed Goods & Services (PDGS)

Participant-Directed Goods and Services

A service available through the Level One and SELF Waivers

Participant-Directed Goods and Services, often called PDGS, is a service available through the Level One and SELF waivers that promotes independence and inclusion. Through budget authority, PDGS can help you with services, equipment, or supplies you need when other programs or resources are not available.

Start with Service Planning

The first step to planning for services is to get a good idea of what you need help with right now. Your county board of developmental disabilities uses a few different assessment tools to get to know you. These assessments help your service and support administrator, or SSA, identify what services, equipment, or supplies you may need. Your SSA can help you pull together different resources to meet the needs from your assessment.

PDGS Requirements

Because every person has different needs and different resources available, there is no list of exactly what PDGS will cover. Instead, the service, equipment, or supplies must:

- address a need clearly identified through an assessment,
- be something that helps you directly and is not something purchased for people that support you,
- and be something you need to stay healthy and safe and cannot buy for yourself.

It must do at least one of these:

- decrease your need for a different waiver service,
- advance your participation in the community,
- help you to be safer in your home,
- offer you more independence,
- improve your cognitive, social, or behavioral functions,
- or help you develop personal, social, or physical skills.

For more information, read OAC 5123-9-45.

Talk with your SSA about what you need

Discuss what you would like to achieve and the needs you have right now. Talk about how your needs are currently being met, what needs are not being met, and what is or is not working for you.

Think about different ways your needs can be met

Your SSA can talk with you about supports available through local programs, your Ohio Medicaid State Plan benefits, by using technology, through the Level One or SELF waivers, or from other resources to help meet your current need.

Find out what works for you


Discuss services, equipment, or supplies that can help meet needs from your assessment. Your service plan should include specific information about the services and supports that work for you.

Add PDGS in Your Service Plan

Your SSA can add PDGS as a funding source to meet a current need from your assessment when other resources do not support what you want to achieve.

Under the Level One waiver, PDGS cannot exceed \$2,500 per waiver eligibility span.

The SELF waiver has no service-specific spending limitation for PDGS. Spending for PDGS must be within the overall annual SELF waiver limitations (\$30K for children and \$45K for adults) when combined with the spending for all other waiver services.



Mason
Hamilton County

IDENTIFY THE NEED

Have a conversation about what you would like to achieve and the needs you have. Your county board of developmental disabilities uses a few different assessment tools to get to know you. These assessments help your service and support administrator (SSA) identify what services, equipment, or supplies you may need.

IDENTIFY EXISTING SUPPORTS

Talk about how your needs are currently being met and whether your existing supports could help support what you would like to achieve and meet your assessed need.

EXPLORE NON-WAIVER RESOURCES

Talk about other available resources that could meet your assessed need and help support what you would like to achieve. These resources may include Medicaid State Plan benefits, educational benefits available under IDEA, other local programs, and willing natural supports.

EXPLORE OTHER WAIVER SERVICES

Talk about other services available through your waiver that could meet your assessed need and help support what you would like to achieve. These could be things like assistive technology, community respite, home delivered meals, and many others.

EXPLORE PDGS

When other resources do not support what you would like to achieve, talk about what goods and services could be purchased using PDGS Budget Authority to meet your assessed need.

ENSURE PDGS REQUIREMENTS ARE MET

Your SSA will help to ensure the purchase meets all PDGS requirements per OAC 5123-9-45. This includes the requirement that PDGS is limited to \$2,500 per waiver year for the Level One waiver. The SELF waiver has no service-specific spending limitation for PDGS. Spending for PDGS must be within the overall annual SELF waiver limitations (\$30K for children and \$45K for adults) when combined with the spending for all other waiver services. If needed, your SSA will submit your request for local or DODD review.

ADD PDGS INTO ISP


Your SSA will add your PDGS purchase to your Individual Service Plan (ISP) and authorize payment through a financial management service (FMS). The PDGS purchase will be directly linked to an assessed need in your ISP and do at least one of the following things:

- ✓ decrease the need for other waiver services;
- ✓ advance community participation;
- ✓ increase safety at home;
- ✓ increase independence;
- ✓ improve cognitive, social, or behavioral functions;
- ✓ develop or maintain personal, social, or physical skills

PARTICIPANT DIRECTED GOODS AND SERVICES (PDGS)

UNDER THE SELF and LEVEL ONE WAIVER

July 2022

 Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities

Participant Directed Goods & Services (PDGS)

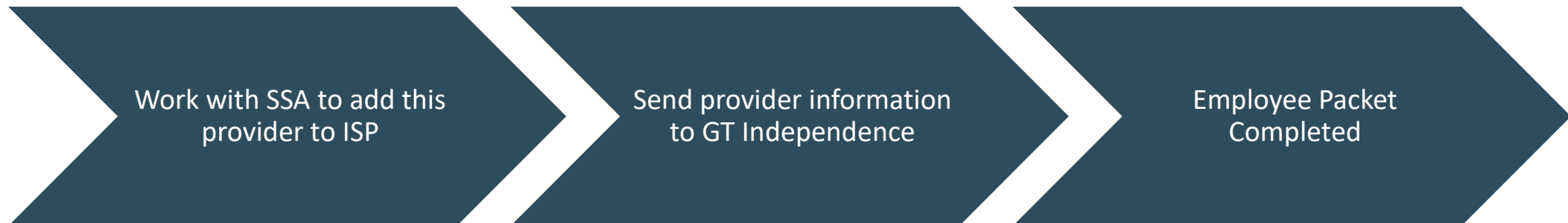
- Prohibited Items
 - Illegal Items
 - Food, Tobacco, Alcohol
 - Internet Service
 - Pools, Spas, Saunas
 - Home Mods (SELF) that add square footage to a home
 - Items used solely for entertainment or recreational purposes
 - Experimental treatments
 - New Equipment to replace previously approved items that have been damaged because of misuse, abuse or negligence
 - Specialized Service (Exclusive to a person with a developmental disability)



Steps for Getting Started With Services



Adding A New or Additional Provider



Follow Through

Managing a state-funded service (like self-directing your services) requires following rules. Often, this means keeping track of details. Otherwise, your services may be paused by the State.

Use a calendar or schedule to ensure that you don't miss important deadlines to keep your services active.





Planning Conversations

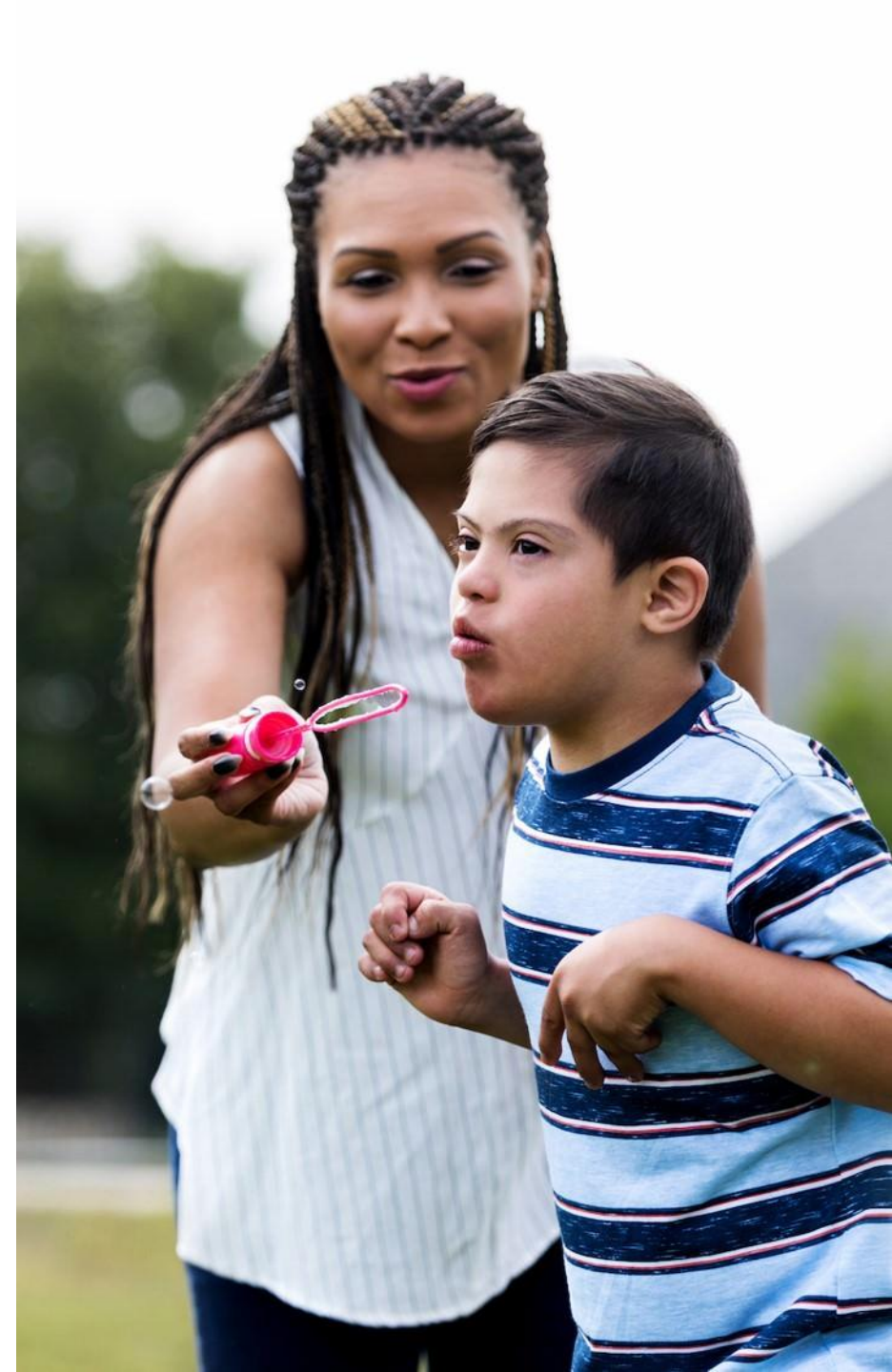
A Person's ISP or Budget must encompass all the required key components including:

- Negotiated rate (PDHPC/Self Directed Transportation)
- Treatment and training
- Environmental modifications
- Self-directed activities
 - Employer payroll taxes
 - Worker's compensation
 - Additional benefits



Communication Is Critical

Communicating with each member of your support team is important to your success in self-directing your services.





Thank You

Visit Us

gtindependence.com

Follow Us

[Facebook.com/gtindependence](https://www.facebook.com/gtindependence)

Sarah Davies, Director of Relationships, Ohio
smillimen@gtisd.org

Questions?

Handouts:

Waiver Comparison Chart 2022

PDGS One Page & Funnel Document