

The State of Indiana's initiative OASIS (Objective Assessment System for Individual Supports) impacts the more than 11,000 Hoosiers receiving an Autism, Developmental Disabilities, or Support Services Waiver.

The goal for OASIS is to create a uniform funding model to determine fair and equitable levels of state support, based on an objective assessment and driven by the principles of person-centered planning and measurable outcomes.

The following information, developed in collaboration with the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services, a department of Indiana's Family and Social Services Administration (who administers the Medicaid waiver program), provides Indiana waiver recipients and their family or guardian with the basics about this statewide initiative.

How was my allocation budget determined?

The State of Indiana considers the following factors in arriving at budgets for every individual receiving an Autism or Developmental Disabilities Waiver:

18% of determination is based on the individual's age OASIS considers age to allocate funds. Those who are in earlier or later stages of life have needs and demands that are different from adults in their most productive years.

14% of determination is based on each individual's living arrangement Those that live with family, in shared living arrangements, or in single-person settings are allocated funds according to circumstances. OASIS takes family and community supports, both currently used and potentially available, into consideration in arriving at an annual budget.

17% of determination is based on the number of housemates DDRS encourages all that are able to live in community-based shared living arrangements. Because Medicaid resources are to serve all waiver participants, shared living is a reality of making Medicaid dollars stretch to address the needs of all Indiana waiver participants.

14% of determination is based on ICAP maladaptive and independence assessment All DD and Autism Waiver participants residing in the State of Indiana have participated in an ICAP review. An independent third-party organization conducted the assessment within the past 24 months. The ICAP captures and compares an individual's circumstances to national averages to assess maladaptive and independence capacities of an individual.

10% of determination is based on behavior & health intensity needs The State of Indiana collected information about frequency and intensity of behavioral and/or health

needs for every DD and Autism waiver participant. Greater intensity and frequency of behavioral and/or health need increases the annual budget allocation.

5% of determination is based on diagnosis Individual diagnosis is an indicator of someone's circumstances, but is relevant only when taken into consideration with the factors including but not limited to environment, status, and living conditions as described above.

20% of determination is based on waiver program considerations Other factors used in arriving at allocated resources include areas not specifically related to the individual but that have bearing on the overall waiver program in Indiana. Examples include statewide utilization of services, service provider operating requirements, Indiana revenue projections, Medicaid operating results, and Federal Medicaid guidelines.

When will OASIS allocations be determined? When will the Consumer and provider(s) be notified?

Ideally, each Consumer will have their allocation 100 days prior to their annual renewal date. The service provider organizations each Consumer has chosen will be notified of the allocation and the objectives the Consumer has for his or her life during the next twelve months, as outlined in the person-centered description within IPMG's Person-centered Plan.

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What is the appeal process?

Allocations are not appealable. The team is expected to work together to develop a plan of support for the hopes, needs, and dreams each Consumer has indicated as part of his or her person-centered description. When working with you to develop your person-centered plan (PCP) for the coming year, your IPMG Case Manager will work collaboratively with your chosen providers to create a plan of support, and will work through situations if challenges arise. In the rare circumstance where the team cannot agree on a plan within the allocated budget, the Consumer may invoke the standard review process by contacting the local BDDS office. The local BDDS office and your IPMG Case Manager will also work with the Consumer to obtain a new allocation if there is a life-changing event.

After the Consumer and his or her team have agreed upon a budget that is consistent with the allocation, the Cost Comparison Budget (CCB) is submitted by the IPMG Case Manager to the State's Waiver Unit, which considers the budget against the allocation then issues either an approval or denial via a Notice of Action (NOA). When reviewing the submitted CCB, the Waiver Unit may return a Medicaid Waiver Unit Request to the case manager requesting further clarification on how the allocation is being utilized (such as when services such as behavior management are no longer being requested after being in the individual's budget for several years). The Waiver Unit will then make a determination of 'Approved' or 'Denied' and a Notice of Action (NOA) will be generated. If a denied NOA is received, the individual may appeal the decision following the timelines/steps included on the NOA form.

If a budget is not consistent with the allocation due to a life-changing event, and results in a denied NOA, an appeal process should be followed. The appeal process information, including the steps involved in the appeal process, the information necessary for submission with an appeal, and the time frames and submission procedures for an appeal are printed on the back of each NOA.

Why is OASIS needed?

The state's previous system relied heavily on subjective descriptions of a Consumer's needs to make determinations about appropriate levels of support.

In 2006, the Division of Disability & Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) announced a request for services for the creation of an Objective Assessment Systems for Individual Supports (OASIS). OASIS redesigned the system that provides home

and community-based services into a Consumer-centered system whereby assessments are objective and resources are allocated in an equitable and fiscally sound manner.

What tools are available for understanding OASIS and my new allocation?

In addition to the information presented here, DDRS and IPMG have a number for resources available to Consumers and their families or guardians.

OASIS Presentation Video Stream

On December 17, 2007, DDRS held a statewide presentation regarding the OASIS system transformation. The presentation provided an in-depth look at the technical details and structure of the OASIS initiative. Following the event, DDRS made accessible a video stream of the presentation from that day, which can be viewed online at www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/3766.htm. Additional resources, including a Q&A bulletin, can be located online at www.in.gov/fssa/ddrs/2903.htm.

Online Interactive Budget Tool

OASIS includes a budget tool that will improve the waiver system by incorporating assessment information and providing greater flexibility in the use of supports for individuals in service.

This online interactive planning tool enables Consumers and their family or guardian to consider the variety of choices and options available for their waiver and the impact of those choices upon their waiver allocation. Once a budget amount is made available (100 days prior to annual renewal date), the interactive budget tool can be accessed online: <https://ddrsprovider.fssa.in.gov/BDDS/Utilities/CustomBudgetList.aspx>.

Your IPMG team

In collaboration with DDRS, IPMG is dedicated to providing information on OASIS and other issues that affect Indiana's waiver program directly to Hoosier waiver recipients. In addition to information provided by your IPMG case management professionals, IPMG's quarterly Consumer news magazine, *possibilities*, has specific information and updates of interest to those receiving waiver services. *Possibilities*, along with important updates as provided by the State of Indiana and DDRS, is available on IPMG's website, www.gotoipmg.com.

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IPMG's Powerful Parents and Consumers Network

Each month, Hoosier waiver recipients and their family or guardians meet around the state to discuss specific issues, challenges, and their solutions at their local Powerful Parents and Consumers Network chapter. Sponsored by IPMG, these meetings provide information that empowers waiver recipients and their families. Topics include discussions on OASIS, person-centered planning, and community integration. Meetings are open to anyone with a developmental disability and their loved ones.

Additional DDRS Resources

In conjunction with your IPMG team, DDRS is available to you assist you with this transition. DDRS and IPMG are dedicated to providing Indiana's waiver recipients with the answers to their questions regarding the OASIS initiative. If you have additional questions or concerns regarding the OASIS initiative, DDRS has provided the following resources:

OASIS-ICAP Help Lines: (317) 234-5222 or 1-888-527-0008

Email: OASIS-ICAPhelp@fssa.in.gov