

MESSAGE IN BRIEF

- DHS received thousands of comments regarding the sheltered workshops. We heard loud and clear the value of having a choice. The changes reflected in this document help reinforce our commitment to providing that choice.
- DHS is not closing workshops or adult day programs for individuals with intellectual disabilities. We are proposing changes that allow providers to modify their service models over time to support people in integrated community settings.
- Each individual has the choice of whether or not to participate in community activity, the amount, and frequency.

AT THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, we are committed to serving more people in the community and giving them access to high-quality services. One of the ways we hope to accomplish that is through the renewal of the Office of Developmental Program’s (ODP) Consolidated and Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS) waivers. These waivers serve 32,000 Pennsylvanians with intellectual disabilities.

The department is committed to full transparency on this critical process and, in December, published the documents seeking valuable public input for consideration. We received more than 2,000 comments from consumers, family members, and stakeholders.

We value your input and in response to those comments, we are making the following changes to our application for renewal of the Consolidated and F/FDS waivers regarding sheltered workshops:

ORIGINAL PROPOSAL	FINAL
<p>Expectation for the person to spend time in the community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25% by January 2018 • 50% by July 2018 • 75% by January 2019 	<p>Expectation for the provider to offer community activity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provider will offer community integration for no less than 25% of program time and up to the amount people choose effective September 2018. This is not a requirement imposed on individuals. • The person and their team will explore the person’s interests/preferences <p>and develop a plan for meaningful community engagement that will support the person’s lifelong learning and growth, including the type of community activities and the frequency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No requirement for 50% or 75%.
<p>Exceptions to the Standard for Time in the Community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exceptions for medical, behavioral health, or conditions that affect the person’s ability to participate or impacts the person’s health and safety. 	<p>Exceptions to the Standard for Time in the Community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exceptions for medical, behavioral health, or conditions that affect the person’s ability to participate or impacts the person’s health and safety. The determination will be made by the person’s team. There is no additional review. • When individuals choose not to engage in community activity, we must be sure that they have adequate and relevant information and experience on which to base their choice.
<p>Calculation of Time in the Community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No exception for part-time participants. • Time calculated on a weekly basis. 	<p>Calculation of Time in the Community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applies to individuals who are served an average of three or more days a week at the service location. • Measure by person on a monthly average basis. • ODP will measure providers during the three-year provider performance review cycle to determine the adequacy of efforts to offer people meaningful and relevant community activities.
<p>Facility Size Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit size of existing facility to 100 by January 2019. • Limit size of new facilities to 15, effective upon adoption of the regulations (January 2019). 	<p>Facility Size Limits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit size of existing facility to 150 in daily attendance by March 2019. • Limit size of new facilities to 25 in daily attendance effective upon adoption of the regulations (January 2019).

IT IS CRITICAL TO REITERATE:

- We are not closing workshops or adult day programs.
- Each individual has the choice of whether or not to participate in community activity, the amount, and frequency. That determination will be made with their ISP team.

I hope this addresses some of your questions or concerns. If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out.



Ted Dallas
Secretary