

Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

COVID-19 Guidance for Day Support Activity (DSA) Providers

The Oregon Health Authority has identified presumptive positive cases of COVID-19, the illness caused by the novel coronavirus. COVID-19 is spread from person-to-person through droplets in the air and on surfaces that people touch.

This guidance is developed for the Office of Developmental Disabilities Services' Day Support Activity (DSA) and employment providers. It will be updated on a regular basis with additional answers to questions that are submitted. Guidance will be posted on the ODDS COVID-19 [web page](#). FAQs for [providers](#) and [Case Management Entities](#) are also online.

Question: Can a provider bill for DSA group and/or one-to-one appointments using phone or video communication?

Answer: This is allowed, however if your agency receives contingency funding, you cannot bill ODDS for it. Do what is needed to continue services but do not bill for it if you received contingency funding.

Question: Can we offer DSA in a facility rather than in the general public?

Answer: It is critical to keep people safe. Executive Order 20-12 outlines requirements for social distancing for any social or recreational activities. It is expected that providers adhere to this order, and further guidance is outlined in PT 20-39 and 20-45.

Question: In terms of contingency funding how can we access the additional funds that are available?

Answer: The funding we have now is addressed in AR-20- 040. We offered this because the state mandated closure. We also have federal requests for emergency funding. As grants or other funding becomes available, we will let you know.

Question: How are providers going to bill for DSA services provided out of the home?

Answer: DSA services may not be provided out of the home at this time – services provided in the home are ADL services or residential services. If a

provider received contingency funding this may be something that they provider, but it would not be billed as DSA.

Question: If we do not have enough work for all DSA employees, can we look to traditionally non-billable work for them, such as activities planning, ongoing training, etc.? We strongly feel that by having only a few clients at a time in our office and ongoing sanitizing, limiting personal beginnings, social distancing, est., we reduce exposure compared to community-based activities. Will ODDS consider allowing us to continue billing community DSA as we provide recreational activities to a few people at a time from our office?

Answer: These would be great activities for staff who are not currently providing direct care. However, if your agency received contingency funding for DSA, this may not be billed during this time, as a monthly allotment will be or has been provided. Other activities to consider for staff might be: online training, updating individual files or plans, administrative work, internal policies and procedures, etc.

Question: Can DSA be completed in-home?

Answer: DSA cannot be offered in-home. ODDS offers contingency funding for this. In-home support would be ADL or residential services.

Question: What is the level of autonomy for DSA providers to tell an individual that they are too ill to go into the community for group activity?

Answer: As a provider, you can make the decision not to support a person in a group activity. Have a conversation (by phone or other electronic means) with individuals in your services.


Question: If programs are laying staff off, should they consider waiting in case they get funding?

Answer: This is a provider decision based on what they know about their program and about their current funding capabilities. ODDS does not have an idea on funding or timelines associated with the request for contingency funding

Question: Is there any discussion with the government to share resources, such as space?

Answer: If you have ideas, please email: DHSOHA.BCP@dhsoha.state.or.us
Make it clear what you are willing to help with, and what resources you may have.

Question: How should providers manage unemployment requests?



Answer: This is out of the scope of ODDS. Questions may be directed to [Oregon Employment Department](#).

Question: Programs are having difficulty accessing personal protective equipment (PPE). Programs would like to draft a letter to Public Health to inform them of the difficulty with access to PPE. What does ODDS suggest?

Answer: Providers can contact public health directly to explain the need for PPE for those working with an at-risk population.