

Office of Developmental Programs Updates

December 2025



State Budget FY25-26



- General appropriations bill passed November 12
- Appropriation for Medicaid less than Governor's proposed
- Community Waiver appropriation: \$21M less than Governor's proposed budget but still represents an increase from FY 24-25
- State Center Appropriation: \$5.8M less than FY24-25 resulting in transfer of \$5.8M to ID/A HCBS Augmentation

MA Eligibility Related Tools

- ODP Announcement 25-097: Maintaining and Verifying Medicaid Eligibility
 - Participant/family one-pager
 - Representative Payee one-pager
 - Electronic Verification System information for providers
 - AE and SCO file access for renewal months



Keep Your Medicaid
A Helpful Guide for ODP Participants

Don't Miss Your Medicaid Renewal

Look for the PINK Envelope!
Participants served through the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) MUST complete their Medicaid renewal paperwork and submit the necessary documentation to the [County Assistance Office \(CAO\)](#) in order to maintain healthcare coverage and continue receiving critical ODP services. It's now even easier to receive your benefit renewal payment! Look for a large PINK envelope with your renewal by the date on the envelope.

Submit Your Form

- Via [COMPASS](#)
- By mail in the return envelope
- In-person to your [County Assistance Office \(CAO\)](#)

Preparing for Renewal

What is Medicaid?

ODP Participants **MUST** maintain Medicaid coverage to receive necessary medical, behavioral and ODP services.

Medicaid Guide for Rep Payees
of Participants served by ODP Programs

Are you the Representative Payee (Rep Payee) for someone receiving services through the [Office of Developmental Programs \(ODP\)](#)?

A Rep Payee manages benefit payments for beneficiaries who are unable to manage their Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments. Because Medicaid eligibility is based on income and resources, your role in managing the beneficiary's finances is critical. You may be asked to provide the [County Assistance Office \(CAO\)](#) with information about the beneficiary's income and assets to determine continued eligibility.

ODP Participants **MUST** maintain Medicaid coverage to receive necessary medical, behavioral and ODP services.

How a Representative Payee Can Help with Medicaid Renewal

Multi-Year Program Growth Strategy (MYPGS)

Multi-Year Program Growth Strategy: AE Readiness Status



Approved			Review Pending	Not submitted
Allegheny	Luzerne/Wyoming	Wayne	Clarion	York/Adams (DCAP)
Berks	Schuylkill	Northumberland		Philadelphia (DCAP)
Cameron/Elk	Cambria	Erie		
Carbon/Monroe/Pike	Lehigh	Franklin/Fulton		
Chester	Venango	Bedford/Somerset		
Dauphin	Bucks	Clearfield/Jefferson		
Lackawanna/Susquehanna	Washington	Armstrong/Indiana		
Bradford/Sullivan	Tioga	Northampton		
Greene	Westmoreland	Fayette		
Crawford	Montgomery	Lawrence		
Lycoming/Clinton	Mercer	Beaver		
McKean	Forest/Warren	Lancaster		
Lebanon	Cumberland/Perry	Potter		
CMSU	Centre	Delaware		
Butler	Blair	HMJ		

Project ECHO: Building Competence in Supporting Autistic Adults with Profound Support Needs

- All Teach, All Learn model
- Free virtual program open to ODP residential provider staff. 10 weekly sessions starting Jan 6.
- Topics include:
 - Managing severe and intense behaviors
 - Medical & mental health comorbidities
 - Catatonia
 - Communication
 - Preventing burnout for caregivers & community supports

Project ECHO Penn State College of Medicine



Project ECHO: Building Competence in Supporting Autistic Adults with Profound Support Needs Flip to learn more about Project ECHO 

Sessions, 7:45-9 a.m. EST 2026

Jan. 6	Feb. 10
Jan. 13	Feb. 17
Jan. 20	Feb. 24
Jan. 27	Mar. 3
Feb. 3	Mar. 10

 Deepening skills, compassion, and collaboration for those providing care where the needs—and the impact—are profound. This free virtual program is open to ODP residential provider staff directly supporting autistic adults with high support needs. Residential providers are encouraged to support attendance by program specialists, frontline supervisors and direct support professionals.

Through interactive case discussions and expert-led sessions, participants gain practical tools and real-world insight to enhance the quality of care and support for autistic adults with complex needs. *Register early; space is limited.*

REGISTER HERE
<https://redcap.link/ComplexASDECHO>




- » Register one-time to access all sessions.
- » Attend as your schedule allows.
- » Space is limited; register early.

Program Highlights

No matter your level of experience, this program meets you where you are—helping you build confidence, competence, and connection in neurodivergent-affirming practice. Topics include:

- Managing severe and intense behaviors
- Medical & mental health comorbidities
- Catatonia
- Communication
- Preventing burnout for caregivers & community supports









Pennsylvania's leading source of autism-related resources and information
877-231-4244

The ASERT Collaborative is funded by the Office of Developmental Programs,
PA Department of Human Services

Performance-Based Contracting (PBC)

January 2026 ID/A HCBS Waiver Amendments

- **April 19 to May 26:** Public comment period for changes to the 1915(b)(4) waiver, Targeted Support Management State Plan, and Consolidated, Community Living, and Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS) Waivers
- **May 27 to July 1:** ODP reviewed public comments and made changes based on public comments
- **July 31:** ODP submitted the 1915(b)(4) waiver and Consolidated, Community Living, and P/FDS Waivers to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for review and approval
- **August 25:** ODP submitted the State Plan Amendment for Targeted Supports Management. ODP received Request for Additional Information (RAI) November 20, 2025. (Approval Pending)
- **October 15:** CMS approved the 1915(b)(4) and 1915(c) waiver amendments effective January 1, 2026. No major changes made

PBC Updates: Supports Coordination

- Performance evaluation and pay-for-performance data submission Oct 1-Nov 1, 2025.
- Signed *Agreement for Provision of Supports Coordination Services* received for all SCOs
- All SCOs (52) completed submissions and all have been scored.
- Results will soon be emailed to SCOs - if applicable, the communication will include a list of measures the SCO did not meet and instructions for the data submission resolution process available if the SCO believes ODP made an error in evaluating performance
- Results will be published to DHS website Jan 2026

Top Unmet SCO Measures

Measure	Measure Description	Number Unmet	Percent Unmet
PCP.01.2	90% compliance with monitoring frequency by waiver type	38	73%
QDI.01.6	Restrictive procedure data is 86% accurate as compared to the most current BSP.	30	58%
RN.01	Register in PA Navigate Resource Platform as a Community-Based Organization (CBO)	15	23%
QI.02.1	Provide SCO's policy on how person-centered performance data is utilized to develop the QM Plan and its action plan and to monitor progress towards QM plan goals	10	19%
WF.03.2	Describe current trauma informed supports training provided to SCs and SC Supervisors and/or plans to implement trauma informed supports training for SCs and SC Supervisors in the future	9	17%
ADM.01.2	Submission of current financial statements (audited if available)	6	12%
QDI.01.1	86% of demographic information is complete and accurate, including living situation and individual and primary contact email address	6	12%
QDI.01.2	90% of employment information is complete and accurate, including all employment fields in the individual monitoring tool, updated at every required monitoring (based on waiver enrollment)	6	12%

Emergency Preparedness: Hazard Vulnerability Assessment

Provider Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA) Toolkit

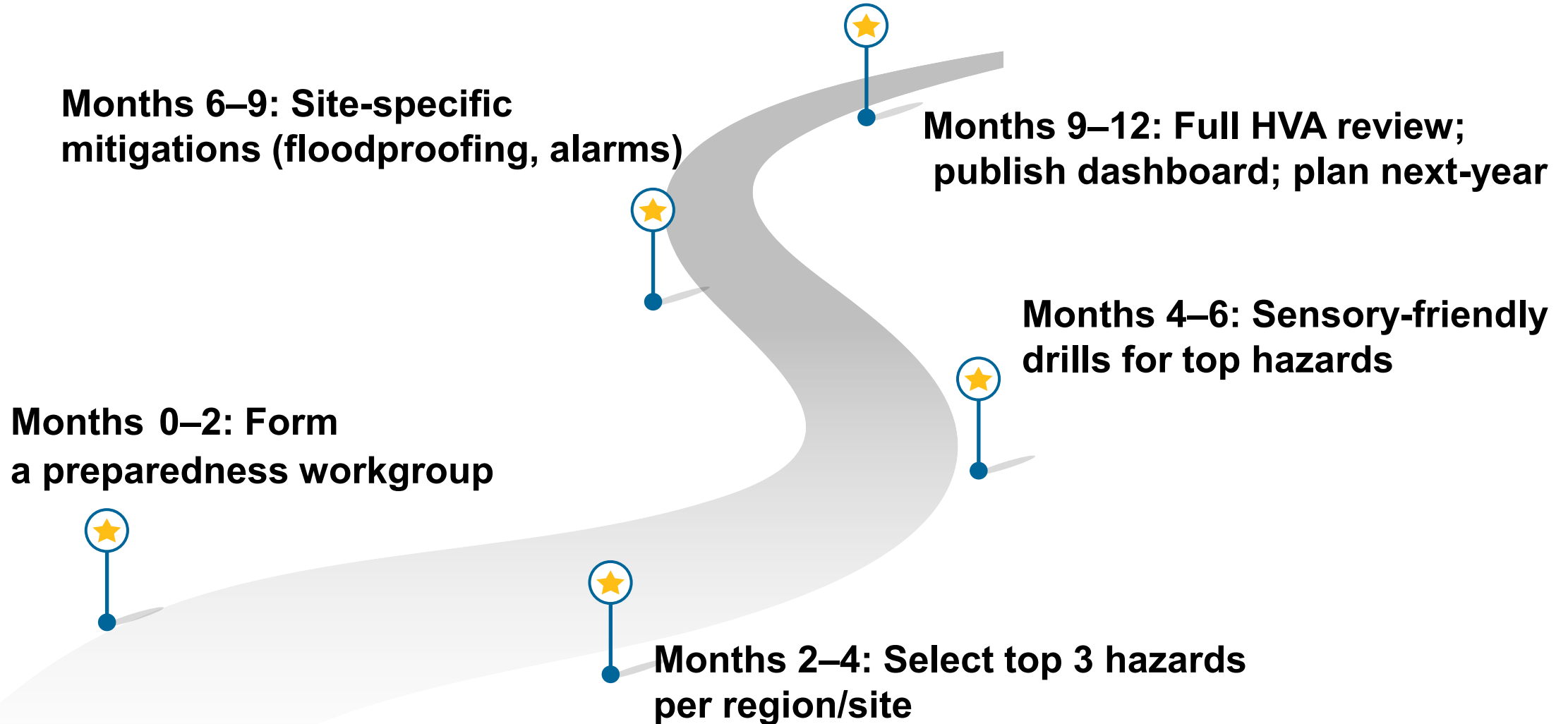
- [HVA Toolkit](#)
- Arrive at Continuity Options to maintain their Essential Functions
- Business Impact Analysis on Organization's Essential Functions.



All Hazard/Business Impact/ Continuity Option

Hazard	ASD/ID-specific risks	Practical options/strategies
Flooding (riverine/flash)	Rapid transitions; sensory overload; lost routines; medication/equipment loss	Pre-identify dry relocation sites; “go-bags” with meds/AAC/ID; visual social stories for evacuation; waterproof device cases; staff buddy assignments; MOUs with hotels/partners
Power outage	Loss of AAC charging; refrigeration; lifts/beds; increased anxiety after dark	Generators with tested load; generator quick connects with MOUs; battery banks/solar for AAC; cold-chain coolers; headlamps and blackout curtains; quiet spaces; backup paper communication boards
Severe winter weather	Shelter-in-place for 48–72 hours; staffing shortages; snow/ice injuries	3–7 days of food/water; staff sleep kits; medication reserves; indoor activity kits; snow/ice removal priority; telehealth backup
Extreme heat/poor air quality	Heat intolerance; seizure threshold; respiratory issues; outdoor program disruption	Cooling centers; portable AC/filters; hydration schedules; indoor programming plan; real-time air-quality triggers; heat illness protocol
Water disruption/internal pipe break	Hygiene and hydration barriers; infection risk; routine disruption	Potable water storage; hygiene kits; disposable supplies; temporary restroom access; visual schedules for altered routines

Provider HVA Implementation Roadmap



Provider Innovation Series



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

- Through a competitive application process, providers may apply and be selected to present **innovative practices that promote peer to peer learning and drive quality**
- ODP encourages providers to use **ISAC Recommendations and Strategies** to identify areas of innovation
- **Quarterly, virtual sessions showcase** provider and panel presentations with attention to participant questions and discussion
- The first selected provider(s) will **present as part of the Everyday Lives Conference** in May 2026
- Informational webinar scheduled for **December 2**, at 9:00am

