

DDDS Waiver Amendment
Public Notice Attachment

Current Definition of Supported Employment

Supported employment services consists of intensive, ongoing supports that enable participants, for whom competitive employment at or above the minimum wage is unlikely absent the provision of supports, and who, because of their disabilities, need supports, to perform in a regular work setting. Supported employment may include assisting the participant to locate a job or develop a job on behalf of the participant. Supported employment is conducted in a variety of settings, particularly work sites where persons without disabilities are employed. Supported employment includes activities needed to sustain paid work by participants, including supervision and training. When supported employment services are provided at a work site where persons without disabilities are employed, payment is made only for the adaptations, supervision and training required by participants receiving waiver services as a result of their disabilities but does not include payment for the supervisory activities rendered as a normal part of the business setting.

Documentation is maintained in the file of each participant receiving this service that the service is not available under a program funded under section 110 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.).

Federal financial participation is not claimed for incentive payments, subsidies, or unrelated vocational training expenses such as the following:

1. Incentive payments made to an employer to encourage or subsidize the employer's participation in a supported employment program;
2. Payments that are passed through to users of supported employment programs; or
3. Payments for training that is not directly related to an individual's supported employment program.

Transportation is not included in supported employment services.

Proposed Definition of Individual Supported Employment (new)

Individual Supported Employment Services are provided to participants, at a one to one staff to consumer ratio, who because of their disabilities, need ongoing support to obtain and maintain an individual job in competitive or customized employment, or self-employment position, in an integrated work setting in the general workforce for which an individual is compensated at or above the minimum wage, but not less than the customary wage and level of benefits paid by the employer for the same or similar work performed by individuals without disabilities. The outcome of this service is sustained paid employment at or above the minimum wage in an integrated setting in the general workforce, in a job that meets personal and career goals in order to promote community inclusion.

Supported individual employment may also include support to establish or maintain self-employment, including home-based self-employment. Supported employment services are individualized and may include any combination of the following services: vocational/job-related discovery or assessment, person-centered employment planning, job placement, job development negotiation with prospective employers, job analysis, job carving, training and systematic instruction, job coaching, on the job employment supports, social skills training, benefits support, training and planning, transportation, asset development and career advancement services, implementation of assistive technology, and other workforce support services including services not specifically related to job skill training that enable the waiver participant to be successful in integrating into the job setting.

Provider Qualifications Group Supported Employment

The Provider Qualifications for Group Supported Employment will be the same as are currently approved in the DDDS waiver for Supported Employment.

Proposed Definition of Group Supported Employment (new)

Supported Employment Small Group Employment Support are services and training activities provided in regular business, industry, and community settings for groups of two (2) to eight (8) workers with disabilities. Examples include mobile crews and other employment work groups. Small group employment support must be provided in a manner that promotes integration into the workplace and interaction between participants and people without disabilities in those workplaces. The outcome of this service is sustained paid employment and work experience leading to further career development and individual integrated community based employment for which an individual is compensated, at or above the minimum wage, but not less than the customary wage and level of benefits paid by the employer for the same or similar work performed by individuals without disabilities. Supported employment small group employment supports may be a combination of the following services: vocation/job related discovery or assessment, person center employment planning, job placement, job development, social skills training, negotiation with prospective employers, job analysis, training and systematic instruction, job coaching, benefits supports, training and planning, transportation and career advancements services.

Other workplace support services may include services not specifically related to job skill training that enable the waiver participant to be successful in integrating in to the job setting.

Proposed Reimbursement Methodology for Group Supported Employment (new)

The payment rate for Group Supported Employment will be based on the rate for Individual Supported Employment, which is a one-to-one staff-to-consumer ratio. The payment rate for the addition of each consumer in the group shall be computed by dividing the payment rate for Individual Supported Employment by the number of participants in the group (up to a maximum of 8) and applying a gross up factor to account for additional incremental costs related to the provision of group supported employment that would not have been captured in the base Individual Supported Employment rate. Group Supported Employment will be paid in 15 minute billable units.

Case Manager Review of the Plan of Care - Appendix D: Participant–Centered Planning and Service Delivery, D-1: Service Plan Development

Current Waiver Language

The DDDS State Case Manager monitors the contracted agency’s implementation of the participant’s plan of care (the ELP) on a monthly basis. This monitoring includes a direct interview with the participant to assess their satisfaction with the services provided and to review how the participant is progressing with the attainment of his/her state priority outcomes. In effect, the participant has a known advocate with the state, which maintains contractual authority over the provider agency.

Proposed Waiver Language

The DDDS State Case Manager monitors the contracted agency’s implementation of the participant’s plan of care (the ELP) on a monthly basis. In addition to the monthly paper monitoring, this includes a direct interview with the participant four times per year, two of which must be in the participant’s home, to review the plan with the participant and his/her family or guardian to assess their satisfaction with the services provided and to review how the participant is progressing with the attainment of his/her state priority outcomes. In effect, the participant has a known advocate with the state, which maintains contractual authority over the provider agency.

Current Performance Measure D-d-2

The percentage of participants whose State Case Managers have visited with them for the purpose of reviewing the Plan of Care on at least a monthly basis. (The number of participants whose State Case Managers have visited with them for the purpose of reviewing the Plan of Care on at least a monthly basis/the number of participants whose services and supports were reviewed by OQM.)

Proposed Performance Measure D-d-2

The percentage of participants whose State Case Managers have visited with them for the purpose of reviewing the Plan of Care at least four times per year, of which two visits must be in the participant’s home. (The number of participants whose State Case Managers have visited with them for the purpose of reviewing the Plan of Care at least every four months (two of which must be in the home)/the number of participants whose services and supports were reviewed by OQM.)