Agenda

- COVID-19 Statistics
- January and Calendar Year 2022 Webinars
- New Jersey State Minimum Wage Increase
- Projected January 1, 2022 Rate Increase
- Reminder of January 1 Changes to Day and Residential Temporary Funding
- Upcoming Guidance
- Resources
New Jersey COVID-19
Current Statistics*

*This update is as of Wednesday, December 15, 2021.

For regular updates: [https://covid19.nj.gov/](https://covid19.nj.gov/)

Consider downloading COVID Alert NJ on your Apple or Android smartphone: [https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/app](https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/app)
### DDD Specific COVID-19 Statistics*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Developmental Centers</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Licensed</td>
<td>Own Home</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive</td>
<td>2,061</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>3,566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>227</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*DDD-specific statistics are updated weekly. Community data includes individuals **actively** under DDD services in settings such as group homes, supervised apartments, out of state, and own-home settings.

Full detail, including data for individuals not under services for whom reporting is voluntary and provided for informational purposes only, can be found at [NJ Department of Human Services COVID-19 Information](https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/coronavirus/).
COVID-19 Update Webinar Schedule

• January Update Webinar:
  • Thursday, January 27, 2021 – 10:30am

• Register for the January Webinar

• Tentative 2022 Webinar Dates are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday, January 27, 2022</th>
<th>Thursday, July 28, 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, February 24, 2022</td>
<td>Thursday, August 25, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 24, 2022</td>
<td>Thursday, September 22, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 28, 2022</td>
<td>Thursday, October 27, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, May 26, 2022</td>
<td>Thursday, November 17, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 23, 2022</td>
<td>Thursday, December 15, 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New Jersey State Minimum Wage Increase

• In February 2019, Governor Murphy signed legislation increasing the minimum wage to $15 per hour by January 1, 2024.

• The next incremental increase takes effect on January 1, 2022, and every January 1 after that through 2024, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effective Date</th>
<th>NJ Minimum Wage Increases To</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 1, 2022</td>
<td>$13 per hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1, 2023</td>
<td>$14 per hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1, 2024</td>
<td>$15 per hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New Jersey State Minimum Wage Increase

• This may impact DDD-funded provider agencies and self-directed employees:
  • Provider agencies must complete wage adjustments to provide at least $13 per hour as of January 1, 2022, if they are not already.
  • Individuals employing one or more self-directed employees will similarly need to complete wage adjustments to provide at least $13 per hour as of January 1, 2022, if they are not already.
    • To increase a self-directed employee’s hourly wage, individuals must contact their Support Coordinator and the fiscal intermediary that issues payments to their employee.
    • Please note that fiscal intermediaries are prohibited by law from compensating self-directed employees for any amount less than $13 per hour for services rendered on or after January 1, 2022.
Projected January 1, 2022 Rate Increase

- The next rate increase is the annual DSP and Supervisor Wage Increase and is scheduled for January 1, 2022.
- This will provide about $1.25 per hour increase to DSPs and DSP Supervisors.
- Impacted services will be:
  - Career Planning, Community Inclusion, Community Based Supports, Day Habilitation, Individual Supports, Pre-Vocational Training, Respite and Supported Employment.
Projected January 1, 2022 Rate Increase

• Provider agencies are required to increase base wages for DSPs and supervisors effective January 1, 2022.

• Increases to DSP and Supervisory compensation must occur no later than March 1, 2022 with funding provided retroactively to January 1, 2022.

• Providers are not permitted to hold higher payments with the intent to release later than the timeframes provided.

• Please review Frequently Asked Questions for more information.
REMINDER - January 1, 2022

Changes to Day and Residential Temporary Funding

• Effective January 1, 2022 and as announced earlier this year, the 20% enhancement to Individual Supports Daily Rate claims will expire.

• As announced last month, effective January 1, 2022, State Supplemental Payments will continue, but be reduced from 50% to 25% of the baseline payment.

• Please see Temporary Day and Residential Funding for detail
Upcoming Guidance Updates

• The Division is working to release updated guidance in the following areas:
  • Residential Visitation Guidance;
  • Day Program Operating Requirements;
  • Residential and Day Screening;
  • Support Coordination Return to Field; and
  • NJ Developmental Center COVID-19 Response Plan.

• These documents will be released shortly. Please monitor DDD Communication emails and the DHS COVID-19 Information Page for updates.
The Boggs Center's Vaccine Facts Series Addresses Common Myths and Concerns

https://rwjms.rutgers.edu/boggscenter/links/COVID-19Resources.html#VaccineResources
Important Resources

• Disability Rights New Jersey
  • 1-800-922-7233 (toll-free in New Jersey only)

• Ombudsman for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities and their Families
  • 1-609-984-7764

• New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities
  • 1-800-792-8858
Important Resources

- For assistance during this time:
  - For issues, call the Division Community Services office for your county or 1 (800) 832-9173.
  - For routine questions: DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov
  - For COVID-related questions: DDD.COVID-19@dhs.nj.gov
  - To report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation: call 1 (800) 832-9173, then press 1.
Highlighted Resources

• For individuals, families and caregivers
  • Boggs Center COVID-19 Information and Resources
  • COVID-19 Materials for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Care Providers
• For individuals:
  • NJ Self-Advocacy Project’s Stay Healthy at Home Webinar Series
• For Direct Support Professionals
  • National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) COVID-19 Toolkit for DSPs
  • CDC Guidance for Direct Service Providers