

Notice for Administrative Entities (AEs) Regarding Level of Care (LOC) Evaluations for the Adult Autism Waiver (AAW) Waiting List

ODP Announcement 20-005

AUDIENCE:

Administrative Entities

PURPOSE:

To inform Administrative Entities' (AEs) of their role in conducting initial Level of Care (LOC) determinations for the Bureau of Supports for Autism and Special Populations (BSASP) Adult Autism Waiver (AAW) interest list to waiting list transition.

DISCUSSION:

Effective January 1, 2020, per the approved AAW amendment and the current AE Operating Agreement, AEs will be conducting the initial LOC determinations for prospective AAW participants for the purpose of adding individuals to the AAW waiting list. LOC will be conducted per the Office of Developmental Programs Individual Eligibility for the Consolidated PFDS and Community Living Waivers Bulletin 00-19-04, issued on November 26, 2019.

For individuals to transition from the interest list to the AAW waiting list, they must have their initial LOC eligibility evaluated for Intermediate Care Facility/Other Related Conditions (ICF/ORC) for people with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), per the eligibility bulletin. Attached to this notice is a process which has been developed to assist AEs in identifying individuals who are on the interest list.

BSASP is notifying everyone on the AAW Interest List (IL) as of December 31, 2019, of the transition from an interest list to a waiting list. Only individuals who meet Priority 1 criteria as defined in the AAW are eligible to be placed on the AAW waiting list. BSASP

will be issuing a notice to these individuals instructing them to contact their local AE to register for services. This notice will also inform these individuals that they will no longer be on a list to receive AAW services if they do not contact their AE and request their initial LOC determined.

A list of all individuals eligible to transition from the interest list to the AAW waiting list per county, along with tracking information will be shared with the AE's via an excel spreadsheet. The excel spreadsheet will be sent via secure email by BSASP to each AE. AEs are to use this list to track individuals from the interest list as they contact the AEs in order to share their status with BSASP. **Status updates must be shared with BSASP monthly by emailing the tracking spreadsheet to ra-odpautismwaiver@pa.gov by the 15th of every month.**

Beginning January 1st, 2020, BSASP is focusing on the top 25 individuals in each region that are next in line to receive an AAW application. BSASP will be conducting targeted outreach and support to these individuals and to the AEs to ensure timely enrollment into AAW as capacity becomes available.

The AAW Waiting List will be managed by the Bureau of Support for Autism and Special Populations (BSASP) and must be exhausted by BSASP before any other individuals are offered enrollment into the AAW.

BSASP will be available to answer questions about AAW or the AAW enrollment process. The BSASP Enrollment Coordinators can be reached at the BSASP toll free number: 1-866-539-7689.