

## Archdiocesan Intellectual Disabilities and Autism Help-Line



IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org

Do you need help accessing services and supports for someone with an intellectual disability or Autism? Through a collaborative effort of Catholic Social Services Developmental Programs, the Archdiocesan Office for Persons with Disabilities, and the Archdiocesan Schools of Special Education, this help-line can assist families and caregivers to connect to services and programs provided by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, as well as other community resources available to provide needed help and support. **To reach the Help-Line call: 484-472-5041** or email: [IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org](mailto:IDDhelp@chs-adphila.org).

### Steps in Accessing Services for Individuals with ID/Autism

1. Children/adults must **register** with their **County Office of Intellectual Disabilities (OID)\***.
  - a. *\*Names vary, OID in Delaware County, IDS in Philadelphia County.*
  - b. The Administrative Entity (AE) will determine eligibility.
2. **Eligibility** documentation (see below) and **current psychological evaluation** must be reviewed by IDS before a registration appointment is scheduled.
3. **Intake** and Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS) assessment is completed with AE.
4. The family selects a Supports Coordination Organization (SCO) and is assigned a Supports Coordinator (SC). Family can select any SCO (home county is not required) and can change as desired.
5. For funding, the SC will schedule a meeting to complete a Supports Intensity Scale™ (SIS™) which is the standardized needs assessment in PA. Expect waiting lists for funding.
6. Families should research provider agencies and the SC will make referrals for services. Funding is connected to the SIS level, of which there are four needs groups, and seven levels of payment.

Children Autism Services are covered by medical insurance via ACT 62 (Autism Insurance Act).

Adult Waivers: Consolidated, Community Living Waiver, Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS).

#### Qualifications for ID Services:

- Full Scale IQ 70 or below documented by licensed psychologist clinician prior to age 22. (Standardized testing Vineland II or ABAS II).
- Deficits in two or more adaptive behaviors or major life activities likely to continue indefinitely: self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction and/or capacity for independent living, functional academic skills.
- Birth certificate and Social Security card.
- Physical exam (the SC will provide a specific form to be completed, which is required yearly).

### **Qualifications for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD):**

- Diagnosed before age 22 as determined by a licensed psychologist, physician, physician assistant or certified nurse practitioner using most current version DSM of Mental Disorders. Psychologist signature and diagnosis and rating system must be on report.
- Exhibit substantial functional limitations in three or more major life activities, likely to continue indefinitely: self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction and/or capacity for independent living, functional academic skills, and clinical ICF/IDD or ICF/ORC (other related conditions) service eligibility of active treatment.
- Birth certificate and Social Security card.
- Physical exam (the SC will provide a specific form to be completed, which is required yearly).

### **Resources for Individuals with ID/Autism**

#### **County IDD/Autism Registration #'s:**

**Philadelphia: 215-685-4677**

**Berks: 610-236-0530**

**Bucks: 215-444-2847**

**Carbon/Monroe/Pike: 570-421-2901**

**Chester: 610-344-6265**

**Delaware: 610-713-2451**

**Lackawanna: 570-348-6100**

**Lehigh: 610-782-3200**

**Montgomery: 610-278-5666**

**Northampton: 610-914-7500**

The **Home and Community Services Information System (HCSIS)**: <https://www.hcsis.state.pa.us> PA state website helpful information such as definitions, service provider information, costs, etc.

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY SERVICES HELP-LINE: 215-685-5900

#### **Both ID/Autism require Medical Assistance Financial Eligibility**

For assistance with financial eligibility, esp. if individuals have assets in their name, Supplemental or Special Needs Trusts can be completed by an attorney. Guardianship is not required.

For more information about the **autism programs** and the application process, people can get information at the following sites: [www.paautism.org](http://www.paautism.org) and [www.paautism.org/BASprogramvideos](http://www.paautism.org/BASprogramvideos)

**Bureau of Autism Services (BAS): 1-866-539-7689** or online referral tool (IRT) [www.dhs.pa.gov/irt](http://www.dhs.pa.gov/irt). No email applications accepted.

BAS collaborates with **ASERT Resource Center Toll Free: 877-231-4244**

**The Asperger's Advocacy Organization: 610-449-6776**

**Advocacy Agencies:**

**Disability Rights PA:** <https://www.disabilityrightspa.org>

**Visions for Equality:** <https://www.visionforequality.org>

PA guide to home and community based services for individuals over 60 and those with physical disabilities. [www.dpw.state.pa.us](http://www.dpw.state.pa.us) to get local agency

**Long-Term Living in PA:** [www.ltlinpa.com](http://www.ltlinpa.com)

**Toll free: 1-866-286-3636**

**COMPASS: 1-800-692-7462** [www.compass.state.pa.us](http://www.compass.state.pa.us)

**County Office of Assistance (COA)** for financial qualifications **1-800-692-7462.**

<https://helpingamericansfindhelp.org/pennsylvania-county-assistance-offices/>

**Bucks County Assistance Office**

1214 Veterans Highway

Bristol, PA 19007-2593

Phone: 215-781-3300

Toll Free: 1-800-362-1291

LIHEAP 215-781-3393

or 1-800-616-6481

FAX: 215-781-3438

**Chester County Assistance Office**

100 James Buchanan Drive

Thorndale, PA 19372-1132

Toll Free: 1-888-814-4698

Phone: 610-466-1000

LIHEAP 610-466-1042

FAX: 610-466-1130

**Delaware County Assistance Office Headquarters**

701 Crosby Street Suite A

Chester, PA 19013-6099

Phone: 610-447-5500

LIHEAP 610-447-3099

**Montgomery County Assistance Office**

Norristown District

1931 New Hope Street

Norristown, PA 19401-3191

Toll Free: 1-877-398-5571

Phone: 610-270-3500

LIHEAP: 610-272-1752

FAX: 610-270-1678

**Philadelphia County Assistance Office**

Headquarters: 801 Market Street

Philadelphia, PA 19107

Phone: 215-560-7226




LIHEAP: 215-560-1583

FAX: 215-560-3214

**Office for Persons with Disabilities & Deaf Apostolate**

222 North 17th Street

Philadelphia, PA 19103

 215.587-3530  215.587.3561  215.272.8028

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