

## Offering Waiver Enrollment to People with Phelan-McDermid Syndrome

*In 2016 the Florida Legislature authorized 2.5 million dollars to offer waiver enrollment to individuals with Phelan-McDermid syndrome who meet the eligibility requirements of section 393.065(1), Florida Statutes.*

### What are the eligibility requirements for APD?

To be eligible for services from the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD), the individual must be:

- Three years of age or older, and have a developmental disability before the age 18
- A Florida resident
- Diagnosed with one of the following seven developmental disabilities listed in Chapter 393, Florida Statutes: autism, cerebral palsy, intellectual disabilities, Down syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, spina bifida, Phelan-McDermid syndrome, or children ages 3-5 who are at a high risk of a developmental disability

### How do I apply for APD services?

To obtain an Application for Services, please visit the APD website at: <http://apdcares.org/customers/application/>.

You may submit an application to the APD office that serves your area, either by mail or in person. Information for the APD regional offices can be found online at <http://apdcares.org/region/>. Faxed submissions will not be accepted.

### What documentation do I need for the APD application process?

You will need to provide the following information:

1. Proof of identity in the form of: FL Driver's License/ID card, US Passport, Military/Government issued photo ID card, Certificate of Naturalization/Citizenship, school photo ID (only accepted for people under the age of 16).
2. Documentation from a physician which provides the diagnosis of Phelan-McDermid syndrome as derived from genetic testing.

## **What happens after an individual applies for APD services?**

In order to receive home and community-based services, the person must meet both APD eligibility and Medicaid eligibility requirements. A review is completed to determine APD eligibility. The applicant will receive a letter notifying them of their eligibility determination within 45 days for children and within 60 days for adults. The individual will then choose a waiver support coordinator (case manager) from a list of available coordinators to help them identify and receive their needed supports and services. Applicants with Phelan-McDermid syndrome who meet APD and iBudget Florida waiver eligibility criteria can enroll on the waiver once they obtain Medicaid (children not already on Medicaid are considered as a family of one for Medicaid eligibility purposes). Individuals with Phelan-McDermid who are currently on the waiver waiting list should call their APD Regional Office to find out how to enroll on the waiver to begin to receive services.

## **What services does APD provide?**

The agency provides services that help individuals to live, learn and work in their communities. The types of services that APD provides under the waiver are grouped in eight service families. These include:

- Life Skills Development (companion services, supported employment and adult day training)
- Supplies and Equipment, Personal Supports (personal care assistance)
- Residential Services
- Support Coordination (Case Management)
- Therapeutic Supports and Wellness (behavior analysis services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, etc.)
- Transportation
- Dental Services for adults over the age of 21

For more information, go to: <http://apd.myflorida.com/ibudget/docs/services.pdf>

APD does not provide medical services. However, once a person meets Medicaid eligibility, the individual may receive medical services from the Florida Medicaid system operated by the Agency for Health Care Administration. For information on these benefits, please link to: <http://www.fdhc.state.fl.us/medicaid/>

For Medicaid eligibility, the Department of Children and Families (DCF) is the agency that makes this determination. To apply for Medicaid, please go to the DCF Automated Community Connection to Economic Self Sufficiency (ACCESS) at: <http://www.myflorida.com/accessflorida/>.

**1-866-APDCARES ( 1-866-273-2273)**  
**apdcares.org**