



MO DDD & You: Office of Autism - Missouri Autism Projects

Frequently Asked Questions

Date: 07/22/2025

Question: Is Hannibal Satellite Office in Central MAP?

Response: Yes, the Hannibal Satellite Office falls under the Central Missouri Autism Project.

Question: How does a client access an interpreter to assist with the application?

Response: The individual would need to call the DMH-DD Main Line at 573-751-4054 and let the front desk know they need access to an interpreter. Once they are connected the interpreter can assist them with completing the app or connecting them with an FFAP Specialist.

Question: Wait a minute, award notifications will not happen until December? And we will only have until June 30 to use it?

Response: Individuals who receive a FY26 Award can use the funds to either purchase services directly or reimburse themselves for allowable purchases during the fiscal year of the award. FY26 award funds can be used for services or supports purchased from July 01, 2025-June 30, 2026.

Question: As I am multitasking, I just want to make sure that I understand that individuals in the Southwest region do not have access to this additional funds. Correct?

Response: Individuals in the Southwest Region can access supports through the Southwest Missouri Autism Project. The Southwest Missouri Autism Project utilizes the shared unit model which is managed through their DMH-DD Service Coordinator.



Question: Can someone apply for the FFAP if they currently receive funding through a Community Waiver?

Response: This will vary based on the specific regional autism project and can change year to year. The best way to confirm eligibility is to contact an FFAP Specialist.

For Fiscal Year 2026 individuals in the Northwest Missouri Autism Project can utilize both a Medicaid waiver and autism project funding via the FFAP. However, the East Missouri Autism Project does NOT allow individuals to utilize both.

Question: What is the difference that some regions can have a waiver and access while others can't?

Response: The regional Parent Advisory Councils make annual recommendations to the Division on whether individuals can access autism project funding and also be enrolled in a Waiver.

Question: Do you know the approximate number of individuals who are "eligible" to apply for FFAP funds in the Northwest region?

Response: There is approximately, 4700 eligible individuals that could apply in the Northwest Region.

Question: So for FFAP- if a family isn't notified until December 2025 that they received an award slot, they're able to go back and cover things they might have already paid for starting 7/1/25 but then funds have to be used by 6/30/26? Is that correct?

Response: Yes, this is correct. FY26 funds can be used to reimburse expenses for services or supports purchased on or after July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Receipts must be maintained for three fiscal years.

Question: Will receiving these funds impact the amount of funds received via SSI?

Response: OAS cannot provide guidance on SSI. We suggest you reach out to the SSI Office and they can clarify on how this might affect their benefits.



Question: So why the delay in notifications if applications are due in August?

Response: Notifications will be made once all applications have been verified for eligibility and the random selection process has been completed. We are expecting a large volume of applications which will result in extended timelines for notifications.

Question: The timeframe is confusing. Can people get reimbursed after the fact for 2025 expenses during 2026?

Response: Yes. FY26 funds can be used to reimburse expenses for services or supports purchased on or after July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Receipts must be maintained for three fiscal years.

Question: What are the allowable services provided. Thank you

Response: The Autism Project funding can be used on services and supports relating to the diagnosis of autism. For more information on allowable expenses please reach out to an FFAP Specialist at missouriautismprojects@dmh.mo.gov or 573-751-4054/Toll free 800-207-9329.

Question: What does Medicaid waiver mean ?

Response: The Missouri Department of Mental Health's Division of Developmental Disabilities (Division of DD) administers four Medicaid Home and Community Based (HCB) Waiver programs for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The four waivers are the Comprehensive Waiver; Missouri Children with Developmental Disabilities Waiver (MOCDD or Sarah Jian Lopez Waiver) Community Support Waiver and Partnership for Hope. A HCBS Waiver Manual provides additional information regarding services, provider qualifications and other waiver requirements.

Question: So if we are awarded the funds, we would expect it in ~December 2025? Just curious as the funds timing is July - June, so just clarifying we're losing 5-6 months to utilize the funds. (Thank you for all this information!)

Response: While awards may not be issued until December, FY26 funds can be used to reimburse expenses for services or supports purchased on or after July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Receipts must be maintained for three fiscal years.



Question: Besides the QR code, where do we find information about PAC and their meetings/dates?

Response: The QR codes on the presentation takes you directly to each PAC Meeting/dates. You can also find this information on the Office of Autism [website](#).

Question: So for FFAP- if a family isn't notified until December 2025 that they received an award slot, they're able to go back and cover things they might have already paid for starting 7/1/25 but then funds have to be used by 6/30/26? Is that correct? What happens if they don't use the funds by the end date?

Response: Yes, FY26 funds can be used to reimburse expenses for services or supports purchased on or after July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Receipts must be maintained for three fiscal years.

All applicants are required to sign an attestation and acknowledgement stating the applicant has a need for autism related supports that is not funding through other resources and agrees to use the FFAP funding on services and supports linked to an autism diagnosis totaling or exceeding the stated award amount. The award amount is stated on the OAS webpage. Failure to fully utilize the full award amount may lead to the recoupment of funds or denial of future funding requests.

If there are concerns the full award amount will not be utilized, reach out to the Office of Autism Services and work with an FFAP specialist to prevent the individual from being disqualified from future funding.

Question: The Program Guidelines just say "contact a FFAP specialist" about allowable purchases. Are there some specific examples?

Response: A comprehensive allowable purchase list is not available, so it is best to reach out to an FFAP Specialist to discuss allowable purchases.

Resources about allowable expenses are under development and will be posted to the OAS website soon. In addition, OAS is working with the East and Northwest Parent Advisory Councils to create a "Commonly Used" services/supports list for families