



HELP FOR FAMILIES

The Office for People with Development Disabilities (OPWDD) is a New York State government organization that offers an array of services for people who have been diagnosed with a developmental disability and are eligible for services through a network of nonprofit service agencies. Supports and services include but are not limited to employment, community and day habilitation, residential, and respite services. For more information, visit OPWDD at <https://opwdd.ny.gov/get-started>.

WHAT IS ACANY?

ACANY is a Care Coordination Organization (CCO) providing Health Home Care Management through the Office for People with Development Disabilities (OPWDD). CCOs combine developmental disabilities supports and services with health and wellness services, focusing more on outcomes and creating positive impact.

WE ARE READY TO HELP

ACANY offers families assistance with applying for these services through our Care Connection Specialists. There are three steps involved to get started.



STEP 1: Determine Eligibility

STEP 2: Apply for Medicaid

STEP 3: Enroll in ACANY

**Ready to get started?
Have questions or want to make a referral?
Contact the Outreach team.
Scan here or call 844-436-8196**





STEP 1: DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY

CONNECT WITH A CCO TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE WITH THE OPWDD ELIGIBILITY PROCESS

ACANY Care Connection Specialists work with OPWDD on your behalf to submit an application. Our CCO will help navigate and answer any questions, so you are not going through the process alone.

CONTACT A CCO AND THE FRONT DOOR

Contacting the Front Door is a requirement to apply for OPWDD eligibility. Contact the OPWDD info line and ask to transfer to your local Front Door Office by telling the operator what county you live in. If you are determined eligible, you can begin the planning process. The Front Door will direct you to choose a CCO in your area to work with. Front Door videos outline the eligibility process for OPWDD supports and services, the types of supports and services available, and where to obtain assistance and can be viewed here: <https://opwdd.ny.gov/get-started>.

CRITERIA AND DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR OPWDD ELIGIBILITY

You must have a qualifying diagnosis with onset of the condition present prior to the age of 22 and likely to continue indefinitely. Qualifying diagnoses include intellectual disability, autism, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, familial dysautonomia, neurological impairment, or others.

Required documents include:

- All available psychological evaluation reports include an assessment of intellectual functioning. Intelligence quotient (IQ) scores should be included within the last 3 years.
- Assessment of adaptive functioning (i.e. Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scale, Adaptive Behavior Assessment System (ABAS).
- Relevant medical reports (e.g. MRI results, CT Scan results, neuropsychological reports).
- Psychiatric reports.
- Psycho-Social reports and/or social history within the last 12 months.
- Educational records including IEP or Annual 504 Accommodations Plans.
- Any other documentation which verifies the age of onset of significant functional limitation prior to age of 22.
- A physical within the last 12 months.

*Required documents may vary by person.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO ESTABLISH OPWDD ELIGIBILITY?

The eligibility process depends on your personal circumstances. We suggest preparing for several months from start to finish. Care Connection Specialists help navigate intake, eligibility, and CCO application processes.





FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Family Support Services (FSS) help families who care for their loved ones at home. These services can provide needed breaks to caregivers, provide training and moral support, recreational and social activities, sibling services, parent to parent networking and support in times of crisis. Once OPWDD eligibility is established, ask your Care Connection Specialist if FSS is right for you.

STEP 2: APPLY FOR MEDICAID

HOW ARE SERVICES PAID?

For CCO enrollment, you must have Medicaid approval. Care Connection Specialists can assist with Medicaid applications.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO ESTABLISH MEDICAID?

Medicaid approval can take a minimum of 3 months.

STEP 3: ENROLL IN ACANY

WHEN DOES ENROLLMENT INTO THE CCO TAKE PLACE?

Enrollment into the CCO is effective the first of the following month after OPWDD Eligibility has been established and Medicaid is active. Once enrollment occurs, a Care Manager is assigned.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A CARE MANAGER?

The Care Manager assists you with exploring various services and link you to requested supports and services.

WHAT IS THE HCBS WAIVER?

The Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver provides opportunities for Medicaid beneficiaries to receive services in their own home or community. Requirements are OPWDD eligibility, Medicaid, and approval of the HCBS Waiver application. A Care Connection Specialist or Care Manager can assist with the Waiver application. To receive HCBS Waiver Services, enrollment in a CCO is required.

