

COVID-19: What we know today

Analysis: CARES Act and the Disability Community

The National Disability Institute (NDI) has “digested” the CARES Act and the Families First Response Act and offers a preliminary analysis of possible impact on individuals with disabilities, their families, and disability-related nonprofit organizations. [Click here for the analysis.](#)

CARES Act One-Time Cash Payments- National Disability Institute analysis

Emergency relief is offered in the form of cash payments to all individuals with and without disabilities nationwide. The full amount is \$1,200 per adult and \$500 per child. This includes recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and/or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) payments from the Social Security Administration (SSA). To be paid automatically by IRS, you must have filed a 2019 or 2018 tax return. All Social Security beneficiaries, whether or not they filed a tax return in 2018 or 2019, will be paid this one-time cash benefit. IRS may determine if there is additional paperwork to be filed if you have not filed a tax return for either 2018 or 2019.

These cash payments will not count as income to Social Security beneficiaries receiving SSI and/or SSDI. These cash payments will also not count as resources for a period of 12 months for individuals to maintain their Social Security benefits under means-tested federal benefits programs (Medicaid, SSI, SNAP, housing assistance).

In conclusion, a Social Security beneficiary with a disability who has no earned income is eligible for the benefit, as long as they are not a dependent declared on the income tax return of another taxpayer and the individual with a disability has a Social Security number.

DODD Guidance: Best Practices for Family Visitation to Residential Settings

New guidance was issued today on taking people out of congregate living situation. It says, in part, “...In some cases, your family member may reside in group homes, intermediate care facilities (ICFs), or with roommates, and everybody within these homes must do everything they can to prevent contracting COVID-19. For this reason, you must not remove your family member from their home unless essential for their health or safety, because this poses an increased risk of exposing everyone in their home upon their return. Understandably, this is very difficult to do, but it is in the very best interest of keeping everyone healthy by minimizing the spread of COVID-19.

Residential providers may restrict a person from returning if the person poses a risk to other household members due to COVID-19. Providers also have the option upon return to place the person on a 14-day quarantine in their room, or can refuse the person to return to the home until the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) communicates the risk for COVID-19 is no longer there. While the provider cannot discharge the person without proper notifications, the provider can temporarily use that bed to assist with the COVID-19 state of emergency, if necessary. After clearance from the local department of health or a medical professional, the residential provider must allow the person to return. ...”

For the full document: [Guidance: Best Practices for Family Visitation to Residential Settings](#)

CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY LOANS

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has put out a guide and checklist on the help available to small business through Federal coronavirus relief legislation. Go to https://www.uschamber.com/sites/default/files/023595_comm_corona_virus_smallbiz_loan_final.pdf.