



# Department of Developmental Disabilities

John Kasich, Governor  
John L. Martin, Director

**To:** County Board Superintendents, SSA Directors, and Council of Government Directors, Ohio Association of County Boards

**From:** Patrick Stephan, Deputy Director  
Medicaid Development and Administration

**Date:** May 4, 2012

**Subject:** SELF Waiver

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As many have heard, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved Ohio's application for the 1915c Self-Empowered Life Funding (SELF) waiver with an effective date of July 2012. Currently, the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) has been working on implementing the components needed for the waiver to be operational as of its effective date. DODD filed the draft administrative rules associated with the SELF Waiver mid-April. DODD has also been making the necessary changes to the pertinent IT systems and operational aspects to incorporate the SELF waiver; thus far, the waiver is on track to meet the slated go-live date of July 1, 2012.

Some of what the Department has been working on as a means of communicating information about the SELF waiver are: a handbook geared towards individuals and family members, as well as a technical guide targeted for County Boards and Providers which details the operational changes and processes that are new to Ohio's DD system and DODD's IT applications as part of the implementation of the SELF Waiver. DODD is also in the process of compiling a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) that will be posted on the DODD website once finalized.

In addition, DODD has established a series of statewide trainings that will be conducted at regions across the state, as well as via webinar. Due to the nature of the SELF Waiver being statewide, and that each County Board will receive at least one state-funded waiver for a child with an intensive behavioral needs, DODD is requiring that each County Board send a minimum of one staff to the SELF Waiver training being conducted in their region. Due to the limited amount of space at each Regional Training location, DODD has set aside a certain number of seats per training for each County Board identified in a given training region, based on demographics (see attached map). As such, the registrations for the Regional Trainings will be managed by using online registration found at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SELFWaiverTrainingRegistration>. In those cases where a County Board has exceeded their limit, a notification will be given by DODD to request the County Board to remove the appropriate number of registrants.

Please also keep in mind that DODD will be conducting a statewide webinar session; the registration for this webinar will be handled separate from the Regional Training registration and is available via link in the attached document, which contains the listing of training dates, times, and locations.

Materials for the trainings will be available for download prior to the trainings. Attendees are expected to bring their own materials to the trainings.