

Vermont Developmental Disabilities Home and Community-Based Services Funding Priorities

1. **Health and Safety:** Ongoing, direct supports and/or supervision are needed to prevent imminent risk to the individual's personal health or safety. [Priority is for adults age 18 and over.]
 - a. "Imminent" is defined as presently occurring or expected to occur within 45 days.
 - b. "Risk to the individual's personal health and safety" means an individual has substantial needs in one or more areas that without paid supports put the individual at serious risk of danger, injury or harm (as determined through the needs assessment).
2. **Public Safety:** Ongoing, direct supports and/or supervision are needed to prevent an adult who poses a risk to public safety from endangering others. To be considered a risk to public safety, an individual must meet the Public Safety Funding Criteria (see next page). [Priority is for adults age 18 and over.]
3. **Preventing Institutionalization – Nursing Facilities:** Ongoing, direct supports and/or supervision needed to prevent or end institutionalization in nursing facilities when deemed appropriate by Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review (PASRR). Services are legally mandated. [Priority is for children and adults.]
4. **Preventing Institutionalization – Psychiatric Hospitals and ICF/DD:** Ongoing, direct supports and/or supervision needed to prevent or end stays in inpatient public or private psychiatric hospitals or end institutionalization in an ICF/DD. [Priority is for children and adults.]
5. **Employment for Transition Age Youth/Young Adults:** Ongoing, direct supports and/or supervision needed for a youth/young adult to maintain employment. [Priority for adults age 19 through age 26 who have exited high school.]
6. **Parenting:** Ongoing, direct supports and/or supervision needed for a parent with developmental disabilities to provide training in parenting skills to help keep a child under the age of 18 at home. Services may not substitute for regular role and expenses of parenting; maximum amount is \$7,800 per person per year. [Priority is for adults age 18 and over.]

Reference: Vermont State System of Care Plan for Developmental Disabilities Services – FY 2015 – FY 2017. Refer to Section Three, V of the State System of Care Plan regarding Integrated Family Services and funding for services for children up to age 22.

Vermont Developmental Disabilities Public Safety Funding Priorities

Individuals Eligible for Public Safety Funding:

1. For new applicants, the public safety risk must be identified at application and they must meet the Public Safety Funding priority criteria in #4 below.
2. For individuals currently receiving services, the public safety risk must be newly identified and they must meet the Public Safety Funding priority criteria in #4 below.
3. The DAILE Public Safety Risk Assessment must be completed or updated for each individual who applies for Public Safety Funding in accordance with the Protocols for Evaluating Less Restrictive Placements and Supports for People with I/DD who Pose a Risk to Public Safety.
4. An individual must have proposed services that reflect offense-related specialized support needs and meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - a. Committed to the custody of the DAILE Commissioner under Act 248 because of being dangerous to others. Services are legally mandated.
 - b. Convicted of a sexual or violent crime, has completed his or her maximum sentence and there is evidence that the individual poses a substantial risk of committing a sexual or violent re-offense¹.
 - c. Substantiated by DAILE or DCF for sexual or violent abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable person and there is evidence that the individual poses a substantial risk of committing a sexual or violent re-offense.
 - d. In the custody of DCF for committing a sexual or violent act that would have been a crime if committed by an adult, is now aging out of DCF custody, and there is evidence that the individual poses a substantial risk of committing a sexual or violent re-offense.
 - e. Not charged with or convicted of a crime, but the individual's risk assessment contains evidence that the individual has committed an illegal act and poses a substantial risk of committing a sexual or violent re-offense.
 - f. Convicted of a crime and under supervision of DOC (probation, parole, pre-approved furlough, conditional re-entry) and DOC is actively taking responsibility for supervision of the individual for public safety. Public Safety Funding only pays for supports needed because of the individual's

¹ Examples of "evidence" may include; recent clinical evaluations and/or recent treatment progress reports which indicate a continued risk to the public; recent critical incident reports which describe risks to public safety; and/or new criminal charges or DCF substantiations which involve harm to a person. Additional supporting evidence may be taken into account.

developmental disability. Offense-related specialized support needs, such as sex offender therapy, cannot be funded by DAIL for an individual who is under the supervision of DOC.

Individuals Not Eligible for Public Safety Funding:

1. It is not a priority to use Public Safety Funding, New Caseload Funding, Returned Caseload Funding or DA/SSA base allocation funding to prevent an individual who has been charged with or convicted of a crime from going to or staying in jail or to prevent charges from being filed.
2. Public Safety Funding will not be used to fund services for individuals believed to be dangerous to others but for whom there is no clear evidence they pose a risk to public safety, and who have not committed an act that is a crime in Vermont. These individuals may be funded through New Caseload Funding or Returned Caseload Funding if the individual meets another funding priority.
3. Public Safety Funding will not be used to fund services for individuals who have committed an offense in the past, and:
 - a. Whose proposed services do not reflect any offense-related specialized support needs, or
 - b. Who do not pose a risk to commit a sexual or violent re-offense.

Individuals determined not eligible for Public Safety Funding may be funded through New Caseload Funding or Returned Caseload Funding if the individual meets another funding priority.

Reference: Vermont State System of Care Plan for Developmental Disabilities Services – FY 2015 – FY 2017.