STATE AUTISM VOUCHER AND STATE AUTISM TASK FORCE

Krista Fremming, Assistant Director, Medical Services
Interim Human Services Committee – Senator Lee, Chair
August 9, 2022
### STATE AUTISM VOUCHER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overview</th>
<th>Ages: 3 through 17; child maximum is $7,500 per year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Services | • Assistive Technology  
• Training  
• Other approved support services that enhance the quality of life of children with ASD  
• The goal is to address gaps in non-therapy related services and to provide education and support to families who may not qualify for other help |
| Eligibility | • Has a diagnosis of ASD from a professional able to diagnose  
• Not receiving services through any Medicaid waiver  
• The child's support needs cannot be obtained through insurance or through other service systems, including education and behavioral health systems  
• The child's needs cannot be met by a generic service or support  
• The child lives with the child's parent, custodian, or legal guardian  
• The child has been a North Dakota resident for the past 6 months |
| Financial Eligibility | Household income must be below 200% of federal poverty level.  
Current income levels:  
• Family of 2=$3,052 per month  
• Family of 3=$3,839 per month  
• Family of 4=$4,625 per month |
<p>| Cost per child | Average cost per child per year = $2,424 (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022) |
| Funding source | All state general funds. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Fiscal Year (SFY)</th>
<th>Total Number of Enrolled Children</th>
<th>New Children (were not enrolled before)</th>
<th>Number of Children also enrolled in Medicaid</th>
<th>Number of Children Who Used Voucher</th>
<th>Number of Children Who Did Not Use Voucher</th>
<th>Average Spending Per Child Who Used Voucher</th>
<th>Total Voucher Spending</th>
<th>Total Voucher Appropriation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2023*</td>
<td>14**</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$745</td>
<td>$5,214</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>$2,424</td>
<td>$99,375</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>$2,938</td>
<td>$141,022</td>
<td>$662,505</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$3,187</td>
<td>$152,970</td>
<td>$662,505</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>$4,867</td>
<td>$189,807</td>
<td>$662,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$4,974</td>
<td>$258,671</td>
<td>$662,505</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$5,523</td>
<td>$276,167</td>
<td>$537,504</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>$3,449</td>
<td>$148,327</td>
<td>$537,504</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*SFY23 – program year just began on July 1, 2023, so these numbers will all increase.

**As of August 8, 2022, the Department has 4 applications pending for financial determinations.
Senate Bill No. 2174 (2009), codified as Section 50-06-32, established an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Task Force consisting of the State Health Officer or designee, the executive director of the Department of Human Services or designee, the superintendent of public instruction or designee, the executive director of the Protection and Advocacy Project or designee, and the following members appointed by the Governor:

- A pediatrician with expertise in the area of autism spectrum disorder;
- A psychologist with expertise in the area of autism spectrum disorder;
- A college of education faculty member with expertise in the area of autism spectrum disorder;
- A behavioral specialist;
- A licensed teacher with expertise in the area of autism spectrum disorder;
- An occupational therapist;
- A representative of a health insurance company doing business in this state;
- A representative of a licensed residential care facility that provides care and services to individuals with autism spectrum disorder;
- A representative who is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe;
- An adult self advocate with autism spectrum disorder;
- A parent of a child with autism spectrum disorder;
- A family member of an adult with autism spectrum disorder; and
- A member of the legislative assembly.
• The ASD Task Force meets on a quarterly basis to examine the following topics:
  • early intervention services
  • family support services that would enable an individual with ASD to remain in the least restrictive home-based or community setting
  • programs transitioning an individual with ASD from a school-based setting to adult day programs and workforce development programs
  • the cost of providing services
  • the nature and extent of federal resources that can be directed to the provision of services for individuals with ASD
STATE AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER PLAN

• The Task Force has four subcommittees that are working on goals and objectives under the following areas:
  • Early intervention
  • Family support services
  • Transition and adult services
  • Legislative/policy
CONTACT INFORMATION

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