

STATE AUTISM VOUCHER AND STATE AUTISM TASK FORCE

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Interim Human Services Committee – Senator Lee, Chair
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STATE AUTISM VOUCHER

Overview	Ages: 3 through 17; child maximum is \$7,500 per year
Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family of 2=\$3,052 per month• Family of 3=\$3,839 per month• Family of 4=\$4,625 per month
Cost per child	Average cost per child per year = \$2,424 (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022)
Funding source	All state general funds.

AUTISM VOUCHER HISTORICAL SPENDING/UTILIZATION

State Fiscal Year (SFY)	Total Number of Enrolled Children	New Children (were not enrolled before)	Number of Children also enrolled in Medicaid	Number of Children Who Used Voucher	Number of Children Who Did Not Use Voucher	Average Spending Per Child Who Used Voucher	Total Voucher Spending	Total Voucher Appropriation
2023*	14**	6	12	7	7	\$745	\$5,214	\$150,000
2022	52	36	45	41	11	\$2,424	\$99,375	\$150,000
2021	48	19	25	22	26	\$2,938	\$141,022	\$662,505
2020	48	32	37	43	5	\$3,187	\$152,970	\$662,505
2019	39	16	38	30	9	\$4,867	\$189,807	\$662,505
2018	52	18	32	45	7	\$4,974	\$258,671	\$662,505
2017	50	26	33	48	2	\$5,523	\$276,167	\$537,504
2016	43	25	25	34	9	\$3,449	\$148,327	\$537,504

*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.



STATE AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER TASK FORCE

- 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.

STATE AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER TASK FORCE

- 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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