



Self-Directed Services

What are Self-Directed Services?

Self-Directed (or participant-directed) services let you take more control of your services and give you the power to manage your own workers. If you decide to self-direct, you are the employer of your direct care workers. Office of Long-Term Living Self-Directed services are offered in two ways, the Consumer-Employer Model and Services My Way.

Consumer- Employer Model

In the Consumer-Employer Model, you are the employer of your direct care workers. You may hire a friend, neighbor, or other trusted individual to be your worker. An agency helps you to issue paychecks and file taxes. As the employer, you are responsible for:

- Recruiting and hiring your worker
- Deciding your worker's hourly rate, within a set cap
- Training your worker
- Determining your worker's job duties and schedule based on your service plan
- Supervising your worker and approving his/her timesheets
- Reviewing your worker's performance
- Firing your worker when necessary

Services My Way Model

Services My Way is available in the Aging and Attendant Care Waivers. Similar to the Consumer-Employer Model, you are the employer of your direct care workers. Services My Way also allows you to design your own budget to purchase goods and services based on your service plan. This can include goods and services that are not usually available through the Aging or Attendant Care Waiver. In Services My Way you get to choose how much to pay your workers based on your budget.

How are Self-Directed Services Different from Agency Model Services?

The Agency Model of service is available for participants that do not wish to self-direct their services. In the Agency Model, you would select a provider from an approved list of agencies to provide your services. The provider that you select recruits, hires, and manages your direct care workers. You may also decide to choose a combination of Self-Directed services and Agency Model services depending on your needs. Regardless of the model you choose, your service coordinator will help you to follow your service plan.

Am I Eligible for Self-Directed Services?

To use Self-Directed services, you must be willing to:

- Accept the risks, rights and responsibilities of self-direction
- Accept the responsibilities as an employer

Your service coordinator can provide additional information and guidance regarding the various models. Selecting a model of service is a personal decision that is up to you.