



The Bureau of Developmental Services (BDS) is the State Agency that manages Medicaid rates for developmental disability (DD) services. These rates work behind the scenes in every individual budget. They set the funding amount that providers receive for providing care to people with developmental disabilities.

Unfortunately, these rates (which are a part of NH’s Medicaid waiver) have not been updated in many years. Stakeholders have raised concerns that the rates may not cover the cost of services or meet the needs of those supported.

To make sure that quality services can continue to be funded, BDS is transforming how rates are developed. First, BDS is going to use the **Supports Intensity Scale (SIS)** to gather data to help DHHS understand how much support each person needs. Then, BDS (with the help of a rate expert) is going to **gather cost (and other) information** to build **rates** that will support the services people need.



How Does this Help People with Developmental Disabilities?

The new rates will be up-to-date and better able to support quality services in New Hampshire at current costs. Plus, using an assessment will create rates that are aligned with the level of support someone needs – promoting consistency across the system for all people accessing services.

Assessment Tool (SIS)



Provides data about what people need



Cost Evaluation



Provides data about provider costs



Individual Budgets





What Led Us Here

- Rates used now have their basis in old data. Costs are rapidly increasing, and our rates should reflect up-to-date information.
- Analysis has shown that there is an opportunity to better align funding with support needs.
- Sometimes, in the current rate system, the individual rates for specific services may not fully cover the cost of the service.

Intended Individual and Family Impact



- **Better rates will support more accessible, quality services.**
- **Families will be able to view and understand the rates that are used.**
- **DSP wages and benefits will be a primary area of study for the new rates.**
- **Individual budgets will be developed using these rates.**

Where Can I Learn More and Provide Feedback?

<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/disability-care/developmental-services/bds-systems-work>

