



FACT SHEET: Individual Budgets

Budget Development

Each person in *New Directions* will have an individual budget (IB). This budget will be based on the plan that was developed for you during the person-centered planning process.

- The Resource Coordinator will give the person-centered plan to the DDA Regional Office.
- The Regional Office will begin to develop the budget (with participation from the individual and people they trust).
- Each Regional Office will use the same method in building the IB.
- The Regional Office will explain the process to you.

There may be some negotiation regarding the budget. You and DDA will approve the final budget.

Budget Management

You (along with your Support Broker and other members of the person's team) will take the lead in managing the budget.

- You and your team will develop a spending plan for the budget.
- DDA will send money to the FMS for you to spend based on that plan.
- You will know how much money is in the budget for every service.
- You can move money among line items so long as the movement is in keeping with the IP and does not result in overspending for the quarter.
- If you overspend or if you require more money for the rest of the year, DDA must approve beforehand.
- You can decide what to pay for your services, as long as it is "reasonable and customary."
- You will receive a monthly account statement from your FMS. DDA, your Resource Coordinator and your Support Broker will also receive this statement. This will help all of us keep track of your budget.

If you do not spend all of your budget, DDA will retain ½ of the savings with you and allow you to purchase an item in your plan that may not have been included in your budget.

Developmental Disabilities Administration

NEW DIRECTIONS

*Maryland's Independence Plus Waiver
For Individuals with Developmental Disabilities*