

**PROPOSAL
BRIEF**

Proposal Title:	Shared Cross-Agency Certification Application
Proposal Sponsor:	Nathan Turner
Date Proposed:	02-01-22
Implementation Timeframe	

Problem or Opportunity Statement

Direct Support Professionals (DSP) who may wish to work with individuals with different needs who receiving Medicaid waiver services may be asked to submit multiple applications for certifications across multiple state agencies. This may prevent some DSPs who work within a different sector (Aging, MH) from serving an individual within the DD system. It also seems duplicative.

Current, the Ohio Departments of Aging, OhioMHAS, Developmental Disabilities, and Medicaid each has its own certification rules for its providers.

The Proposal

The State of Ohio should establish one certification process for DSPs to be certified to work across Medicaid waiver programs. The process should represent a simplification of current multiple process to avoid unnecessary or duplicative paperwork or verification processes. Qualifications or other certification requirements should be aligned to the greatest extent possible.

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowing a DSP to serve individuals affiliated with different state agencies or Medicaid waivers allows for workforce flexibility. • Simplifying certification processes removes a current barrier for some potential employees entering the field. • DSPS can be paid to fill in during an emergency without having to meet a different certification process – filling gaps across multiple systems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This may allow different providers to hire DSPs already serving within the helping professions instead of increasing the workforce pool. • It is important to ensure that the quality of individuals within the DSP field is not harmed by eliminating some agency-specific requirements.

Critical Questions

- Can this cross-agency work occur in a timely manner?
- Will changing certification application processes require changes in the Ohio Revised Code or rules?
- Will changing certification application processes require Medicaid amendments or CMS approvals?

Reference Materials / Attachments