

COEDI & OEDI Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

County Board C/OEDI Authorization

Who can determine eligibility for county board programs?

- Only Service and Support Administrators are authorized by Ohio Revised Code to determine eligibility. However, other staff employed by a county DD and authorized by the Ohio Department of DD can administer the COEDI/OEDI. In order to become authorized, a person must attend a training session, complete a practice COEDI/OEDI and submit it to DODD for review. DODD then sends a letter authorizing the staff person to administer the COEDI and/or the OEDI. The SSA must sign-off on all of the C/FED.

Will staff authorized to administer previous versions of the C/OEDI be required to participate in training on the current C/OEDI?

- No, however the DODD recommends that all veteran users attend training on the current C/OEDI. The 2010 revision must be used to determine eligibility beginning August 1, 2010.

How will I know when guidelines or items change on the C/OEDI?

- The Ohio Department of DD will communicate to the County Boards of DD any changes in the eligibility process.

Qualifying Diagnosis

How do we determine what the primary diagnosis is?

- You do not need to determine the “primary” diagnosis. You record all qualifying diagnoses of the individual applying for eligibility on the appropriate form of the C/FED.

Do we need to determine which diagnosis is responsible for the individual’s inability to perform an item on the C/OEDI Instrument?

- No, once you establish the qualifying diagnosis, the C/OEDI is completed without regard to determining which disability is causing the person’s inability to do a particular item.

Can a person with average or above average intelligence be determined eligible?

- Yes, as long as the individual has a condition that meets the definition of “developmental disability” in O.R.C. 5126.01.

Can an individual with a dual diagnosis qualify as having a diagnosis for county board eligibility?

- Yes, it is only when an individual has a sole diagnosis of mental illness that the individual cannot be considered to have a qualifying disability.

Are Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) qualifying diagnoses?

- Yes.

Will the Diagnostic & Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) continue to be the source for the list of diagnoses that reflect mental illness?

- Yes, a select list of disqualifying disabilities, based on the DSM list of diagnoses of mental illness is available in the current C/OEDI User’s Guide. A person may have one of these diagnoses and have a qualifying diagnosis as well, and, provided all other criteria are met; you would proceed with the C/OEDI.

Determining Eligibility

How do we County Boards determine eligibility for children under age 6?

- For children ages 0-2 (under 3), you must keep documentation on file of a diagnosis, and a delay in one area of development, or evidence of established risk. For children ages 3-5, the documentation must show a diagnosis, and two delays or evidence of established risk. See ORC 5126.01(E).

Is the C/OEDI process used for all children ages 6+ and adults applying for County Board Programs.

- Yes, there is only one eligibility process for individuals applying for county DD programs. Those children in county board of DD special education classes (pre-school, school-age), applying for services other than special education, must be determined eligible for county board programs.

If a person is found ineligible for county board programs, how soon after can they apply again?

- The individual may re-apply immediately but the county board is not required to re-administer the C/OEDI unless there is new information to be considered that might change the results. There is no set time frame for re-determination.

What services may an eligible individual receive, if the county board does not have the services needed by that individual?

- Eligibility is a separate issue from the availability of services provided by a county board.

“Grandfathering”

How was an individual “grandfathered” into eligibility for county board services in 1991?

- Individuals who were sixteen years of age prior to July 1, 1991 and receiving county board services prior to that date would be eligible for county board services forever more as long as the individual is in need of services.

If individuals were receiving case management services (Service and Support Administration) only on January 10, 1992 and were eligible prior to that due to a diagnosis of mild mental retardation, are they “grandfathered” for all county board services?

- No, they are “grandfathered” for service and support administration services only.

Are individuals who resided in developmental centers automatically eligible for county board services?

- ORC 5126.041(C)(3) states a person who resided in a state institution on or before 10/29/93 is eligible for programs and services offered by a county board of mental retardation and developmental disabilities unless the person is determined by the county board not to be in need of those programs and services.

Is it true that, once “grandfathered”, the person is always “grandfathered”?

- Yes, they are “grandfathered” for all county board services across the state that they were entitled to. The Department of DD maintains a database of all the individuals who were “grandfathered” in and it is currently called the Individual Data System (IDS).

Re-determination

Will the individuals currently eligible under prior versions of the C/OEDI need to have their eligibility re-determined?

- No. There is no need to do this and DODD discourages re-determinations of eligibility simply because the instrument has been revised.

Will individuals found ineligible under prior versions of the C/OEDI have the opportunity to apply again and be reconsidered under the current C/OEDI?

- Yes, if it requested, the County Board has the authority to re-determine eligibility at any time. If the circumstances have changed, or new information is available, a new C/OEDI can be completed.

Do children who turn 16 while they are currently enrolled and eligible for county board programs need their eligibility re-determined?

- Yes, at age 16 individuals must have their eligibility re-determined using the OEDI. County Boards should initiate eligibility up to 60 days prior to their 16th birthday.

If a person was made eligible in one county and moves to another county, does eligibility have to be re-determined?

- No. However, the receiving county board has the authority to re-determine eligibility for that individual.

When an individual who currently receives waiver services moves into a new county, can eligibility be re-determined?

- Yes. However, the outcome of a re-determination could have an impact on continued qualification for waiver services. The DODD HCBS waiver requires an individual to have an ICF-MR level of care, which is different than county board eligibility criteria.

Can C/FED forms be forwarded when someone moves to a new county in Ohio?

- All County Boards of DD have access to the state IDS database and should check to see if the individual has either a previous or “active” case anywhere in Ohio. It is appropriate to contact the last county of residence to secure a copy of the C/FED, Score Sheet, and a copy of qualifying diagnosis used on the C/FED form. Individuals may have this information and other records with them when applying for services. Releases for information are not necessary.

Administration of C/OEDI Instruments

If an informant is not available, what do you do?

- It is not mandatory to have an informant. However, it is best practice to speak with multiple people. You should utilize the individual’s responses, your own observations, and other documentation. If you do not feel that the individual’s responses and the other documentation is reliable or sufficient, you can arrange for additional observations.

What eligibility forms should be sent to the DODD for database purposes?

- None. (Sole exception: New trainees must send practice OEDI and/or COEDI; Including FED/CFED and complete Answer & Score sheets with comments and conclusions).

Do we need permission to complete the eligibility process?

- Yes, from either the individual or the legal guardian.

Why is careful completion of the C/OEDI necessary when it is clear that the individual can perform all the tasks?

- The record should completely reflect why decisions were made about each item.

If the individual is in the custody of the Children’s Services Board, who is responsible for determining eligibility?

- The county of custody has the responsibility to determine eligibility.