



Self-Direction Service Descriptions

Updated on June 17, 2025

Effective for Ohio Home Care Waiver on October 1, 2024

Effective for MyCare Waiver on November 15, 2024

Overview

Self-direction is a model of long-term care service delivery that helps people of all ages, with all types of disabilities, maintain their independence at home. Self-direction is available through the [Ohio Home Care Waiver](#), [MyCare Waiver](#), and [PASSPORT Waiver](#). Available services through self-direction may be different under each waiver.

Service Descriptions Sections

- [Section 1 – Service Management Type Table](#): Shows what services are provider-managed and/or self-directed by each waiver.
- [Section 2: Direct Care Activities Allowed by Service Table](#): Shows the tasks and care that can be provided under each service type.
- [Section 3: Authority Type Table](#): Shows which services are budget authority and/or employer authority by each waiver.
- [Section 4: Self-Directed Services Provider Enrollment Table](#): Lists the agency or entity a provider may enroll or become certified through to provide and bill for a service under self-direction.
- [Section 5: Service Descriptions](#): Provides a high-level description of each service. It also notes any similar services under one of the waivers.

Key Acronyms and Definitions

- Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM)
- Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD)
- Ohio Department of Aging (ODA)
- Financial Management Services (FMS)

Section 1: Service Management Type Table

The following three tables show what services are provider-managed and/or self-directed under each waiver.

MyCare Waiver Service Management Type Table		
Alternative Meals	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Choices Home Care Attendant	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Home Care Attendant	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Home Maintenance and Chores	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Home Medical Equipment and Supplies and Supplemental Adaptive and Assistive Devices	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Home Modifications	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Personal Care Aide	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Self-Directed Goods and Services	Provider-Managed: No	Self-Directed: Yes
Waiver Nursing	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes

Definitions

- **Provider-Managed:** Waiver services are arranged, managed, and provided by a provider agency or independent provider.
- **Self-Directed:** Waiver services are arranged and managed by the individual or their representative, which may include hiring caregivers and managing the waiver funds allocated to them.

Color

Legend:

Yes = Green

No = Yellow

Ohio Home Care Waiver Service Management Type Table		
Alternative Meals*	Provider-Managed: No	Self-Directed: No
Choices Home Care Attendant*	Provider-Managed: No	Self-Directed: No
Home Care Attendant	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Home Maintenance and Chores*	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: No
Home Medical Equipment and Supplies*	Provider-Managed: No	Self-Directed: No
Home Modifications	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Personal Care Aide	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Self-Directed Goods and Services	Provider-Managed: No	Self-Directed: Yes
Supplemental Adaptive and Assistive Devices	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: No
Waiver Nursing	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes

*Note: Alternative Meals, Choices Home Care Attendant, Home Maintenance and Chores, and Home Medical Equipment and Supplies are not services offered on the Ohio Home Care Waiver.

Definitions

- Provider-Managed: Waiver services are arranged, managed, and provided by a provider agency or independent provider.
- Self-Directed: Waiver services are arranged and managed by the individual or their representative, which may include hiring caregivers and managing the waiver funds allocated to them.

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PASSPORT Waiver Service Management Type Table		
Alternative Meals	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Choices Home Care Attendant	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Home Care Attendant	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: No
Home Maintenance and Chores	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Home Medical Equipment and Supplies	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Home Modifications	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Personal Care Aide	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: Yes
Self-Directed Goods and Services*	Provider-Managed: No	Self-Directed: No
Supplemental Adaptive and Assistive Devices*	Provider-Managed: No	Self-Directed: No
Waiver Nursing	Provider-Managed: Yes	Self-Directed: No

*Note: Self-Directed Goods and Services and Supplemental Adaptive and Assistive Devices are not services offered on the PASSPORT Waiver.

Definitions

- Provider-Managed: Waiver services are arranged, managed, and provided by a provider agency or independent provider.
- Self-Directed: Waiver services are arranged and managed by the individual or their representative, which may include hiring caregivers and managing the waiver funds allocated to them.

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Section 2: Direct Care Activities Allowed by Service Table

The table below shows the tasks and care that can be provided under each service type.

Direct Care Activities Allowed by Service				
Administration of Medication (Example: giving medication directly to the individual)	Choices Home Care Attendant: No	Home Care Attendant: No	Personal Care Aide: No	Waiver Nursing: Yes
Assistance with Self-Administration of Medication (Example: assembling medication and providing instructions to the individual on how to use it)	Choices Home Care Attendant: Yes	Home Care Attendant: Yes	Personal Care Aide: Yes	Waiver Nursing: Yes
Body Care (Example: bathing, dressing, grooming, mobility)	Choices Home Care Attendant: Yes	Home Care Attendant: Yes	Personal Care Aide: Yes	Waiver Nursing: Yes
Community Access (Example: taking the individual on errands and shopping)	Choices Home Care Attendant: Yes	Home Care Attendant: Yes	Personal Care Aide: Yes	Waiver Nursing: Yes
Errands for the Individual (Example: going to the store for the individual)	Choices Home Care Attendant: Yes	Home Care Attendant: Yes	Personal Care Aide: Yes	Waiver Nursing: No
Home Care (Example: cooking, cleaning, and laundry)	Choices Home Care Attendant: Yes	Home Care Attendant: Yes	Personal Care Aide: Yes	Waiver Nursing: Yes

Medication Reminders	Choices Home Care Attendant: Yes	Home Care Attendant: Yes	Personal Care Aide: Yes	Waiver Nursing: Yes
Skilled Nursing Tasks (Example: g-tube feeds and ostomy care)	Choices Home Care Attendant: No	Home Care Attendant: Yes	Personal Care Aide: No	Waiver Nursing: Yes

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Section 3: Authority Type Available Table

The following three tables show which services are budget authority and/or employer authority by each waiver.

MyCare Waiver Authority Type Available Table		
Alternative Meals	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: Yes
Choices Home Care Attendant	Employer Authority: Yes	Budget Authority: Yes
Home Care Attendant	Employer Authority: Yes	Budget Authority: Yes
Home Maintenance and Chores	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: Yes
Home Medical Equipment and Supplemental Adaptive and Assistive Devices	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: Yes
Home Modifications	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: Yes
Personal Care Aide*	Employer Authority: Yes	Budget Authority: Yes
Self-Directed Goods and Services	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: Yes
Waiver Nursing	Employer Authority: Yes	Budget Authority: Yes

Definitions

- Employer Authority: allows the individual to hire, manage, and dismiss their caregivers.
- Budget Authority: allows the individual to manage the funds for self-directed waiver services.

*ODA-certified consumer-directed personal care services do not have budget authority.

Color

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Ohio Home Care Waiver Authority Type Available Table		
Alternative Meals*	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: No
Choices Home Care Attendant*	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: No
Home Care Attendant	Employer Authority: Yes	Budget Authority: Yes
Home Maintenance and Chores	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: No
Home Medical Equipment and Supplies*	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: No
Home Modifications	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: Yes
Personal Care Aide	Employer Authority: Yes	Budget Authority: Yes
Self-Directed Goods and Services	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: Yes
Supplemental Adaptive and Assistive Devices	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: No
Waiver Nursing	Employer Authority: Yes	Budget Authority: Yes

*Note: Alternative Meals, Choices Home Care Attendant, and Home Medical Equipment and Supplies are not services offered on the Ohio Home Care Waiver.

Definitions

- Employer Authority: allows the individual to hire, manage, and dismiss their caregivers.
- Budget Authority: allows the individual to manage the funds for self-directed waiver services.

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PASSPORT Waiver Authority Type Available Table		
Alternative Meals	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: Yes
Choices Home Care Attendant	Employer Authority: Yes	Budget Authority: Yes
Home Care Attendant	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: No
Home Maintenance and Chores	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: Yes
Home Medical Equipment and Supplies	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: Yes
Home Modifications	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: Yes
Personal Care Aide	Employer Authority: Yes	Budget Authority: No
Self-Directed Goods and Services*	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: No
Supplemental Adaptive and Assistive Devices*	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: No
Waiver Nursing	Employer Authority: No	Budget Authority: No

*Note: Self-Directed Goods and Services and Supplemental Adaptive and Assistive Devices are not services offered on the PASSPORT Waiver.

Definitions

- Employer Authority: allows the individual to hire, manage, and dismiss their caregivers.
- Budget Authority: allows the individual to manage the funds for self-directed waiver services.

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Section 4: Self-Directed Services Provider Enrollment Table

The table below lists the agency or entity a provider may enroll or become certified through to provide and bill for a service under self-direction.

Self-Directed Services Provider Enrollment Table			
Alternative Meals	MyCare: ODA	Ohio Home Care: Not Available	PASSPORT: ODA
Choices Home Care Attendant	MyCare: ODA	Ohio Home Care: Not Available	PASSPORT: ODA
Home Care Attendant	MyCare: ODM or FMS*	Ohio Home Care: ODM or FMS*	PASSPORT: Cannot be self-directed
Home Maintenance and Chores	MyCare: ODA	Ohio Home Care: Cannot be self-directed	PASSPORT: ODA
Home Medical Equipment and Supplies	MyCare: ODA	Ohio Home Care: Not Available	PASSPORT: ODA
Home Modifications	MyCare: ODA, ODM	Ohio Home Care: ODM	PASSPORT: ODA
Personal Care Aide	MyCare: ODA, ODM, or FMS*	Ohio Home Care: ODM or FMS*	PASSPORT: ODA
Self-Directed Goods and Services	MyCare: No enrollment required	Ohio Home Care: No Enrollment Required	PASSPORT: Not Available
Supplemental Adaptive and Assistive Devices	MyCare: Cannot be self-directed	Ohio Home Care: Cannot be self-directed	PASSPORT: Not Available
Waiver Nursing	MyCare: ODM or FMS*	Ohio Home Care: ODM or FMS*	PASSPORT: Cannot be self-directed

*Providers may only enroll through the FMS when providing the listed service through self-direction.



Section 5: Service Descriptions

Below are two tables that provide high-level descriptions of each service. The first table describes services available under budget and employer authority. The second table describes services only under budget authority.

Self-Direction Waiver Services with Budget and Employer Authority	
Service Name	Description
Personal Care Aide	<p>Available through self-direction on: Ohio Home Care, MyCare, and PASSPORT waivers.</p> <p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Trained aides assist the individual with activities of daily living (ADL), instrumental activities of daily living (IADL), and other support services for the individual.Personal care aide services include helping the individual care for their body, including hygiene, mobility, and grooming. They also include caring for one's home and personal affairs, like cleaning and making meals, correspondence and paying bills. Personal care aides can also help with accessing the community, including transporting and running errands. They can help with taking medication, which might include reminders, helping read dosage instructions, or organizing medications for easy access. <p>Comparable to (which service): choices home care attendant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Differences from choices home care attendant: cannot assist with money management. <p>Relevant Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) rule(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">ODM personal care aide - OAC 5160-46-04.ODA consumer-directed personal care services - OAC 173-39-02.11.
Choices Home Care Attendant	<p>Available through self-direction on: MyCare and PASSPORT waivers.</p> <p>Description:</p>



Self-Direction Waiver Services with Budget and Employer Authority

Service Name	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Self-directed Choices home care attendants assist the individual with activities of daily living (ADL), instrumental activities of daily living (IADL), and other support services for the individual.• Choices home care attendants can supply the same support as personal care aide services include helping the individual care for their body, including hygiene, mobility, and grooming. They also include caring for one's home and personal affairs, like cleaning and making meals, correspondence and paying bills. Choices home care attendants can also help with accessing the community, including transporting and running errands. They can help with taking medication, which might include reminders, helping read dosage instructions, or organizing medications for easy access.• Choices home care attendants can provide assistance with money management, home maintenance and chores. They can also provide and bill for transportation with prior approval. <p>Comparable to (which service): personal care aide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Differences from personal care aide: can assist with money management. <p>Relevant OAC rule(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ODA choices home care attendant services – OAC 173-39-02.4.
Home Care Attendant	<p>Available through self-direction on: Ohio Home Care and MyCare Waivers.</p> <p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trained, non-nursing staff assist with skilled nursing services like medication administration and g-tube feeding and care. Home care attendants also assist with activities of daily living (ADL), instrumental activities of daily living (IADL), and other support services for the individual.• These services might include, but are not limited to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Body care: mobility, eating, showering, and grooming.



Self-Direction Waiver Services with Budget and Employer Authority

Service Name	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Home support: cleaning and making meals.○ Correspondence and paying bills.○ Accessing the community: transportation and running errands. <p>Comparable to (which service): waiver nursing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Differences from waiver nursing: Home care attendants must have an RN consultation available, approval from a primary care provider, and training on the specific nursing tasks to be completed. <p>Relevant OAC rule(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ODM home care attendant – OAC 5160-44-27.
Waiver Nursing	<p>Available through self-direction on: Ohio Home Care and MyCare waivers.</p> <p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Waiver nurses provide skilled nursing tasks. The nurse may also provide some personal care support. <p>Comparable to (which service): home care attendant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Differences from home care attendant: Must be a licensed RN or LPN, nursing tasks must be within the nurse's scope of practice. Must have orders from a primary care practitioner and LPNs must have an RN supervisor. <p>Relevant OAC rule(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ODM waiver nursing – OAC 5160-44-22.
Home Maintenance and Chores	<p>Available through self-direction on: MyCare waiver.</p> <p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funds under this service can be used for activities around the house. This includes minor home maintenance and repairs, heavy household cleaning, environmental hazard removal, and upkeep of

Self-Direction Waiver Services with Budget and Employer Authority

Service Name	Description
	<p>home modifications and devices. Services are available up to \$10,000 per calendar year.</p> <p>Relevant OAC rule(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Nursing facility-based level of care home and community-based services programs: home maintenance and chore services – OAC 5160-44-12</u> • <u>ODA provider certification: home maintenance and chores - OAC 173-39-02.5</u>

Self-Direction Budget Authority Only Services

Service Name	Description
Home Medical Equipment and Supplies	<p>Available through self-direction on: MyCare and PASSPORT waivers.</p> <p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds under this service can be used to buy medical equipment, supplies, or other devices that help increase independence for the individual. Services are approved per item. <p>Relevant OAC rule(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>ODA home medical equipment and supplies – OAC 173-39-02.7.</u>
Home Modifications	<p>Available through self-direction on: MyCare, Ohio Home Care, and PASSPORT waivers.</p> <p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds under this service can be used to pay for physical changes to the home that are needed to access or move in the home and/or increase independence for the individual. Examples include, but are not limited to, installing wheelchair ramps, handrails, or stairlifts. Individuals have up to \$10,000 in funds for this service each calendar year.



Self-Direction Budget Authority Only Services

Service Name	Description
	<p>Relevant OAC rule(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Home modification – OAC 5160-44-13.
Self-Directed Goods and Services	<p>Available through self-direction on: MyCare and Ohio Home Care waivers.</p> <p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• These funds may be used towards services, equipment, and supplies that are not available or covered through Medicaid, the waiver, or other sources. Individuals have up to \$2,500 in funds for this service per 365 days. Examples include, but are not limited to, paying for camps and gym memberships, purchasing household appliances, or expenses for an individual's training on service dogs. <p>Relevant OAC rule(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ODM-administered waiver program: self-directed goods and services – OAC 5160-45-03.5
Alternative Meals	<p>Available through self-direction on: MyCare and PASSPORT waivers.</p> <p>Description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alternative meals service allows an individual to choose the supplier or source that provides their meals. Options include, but are not limited to, prepared meals from the grocery store, restaurants, or other suppliers. <p>Comparable to (which service): home delivered meals service on the MyCare Waiver and PASSPORT Waiver.</p> <p>Relevant OAC rule(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ODA alternative meals – OAC 173-39-02.2.