

Transition Resources for Students in Pennsylvania Post-Brain Injury

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Brain Injury Resources for Adolescents

- PA Head Injury Program (HIP)
- Acquired Brain Injury Program
- Medicaid Waivers - *Community Health Choices*
- OBRA
- OVR
- PA NeuroResource Facilitation

Pennsylvania Head Injury Program (HIP)

- **Created in 1988 by The Emergency Medical Services Act**
- **Operated by the Pennsylvania Department of Health**
- **Funds rehabilitation services for individuals with traumatic brain injury**
 - *\$100,000 or 1 yr*
- **Services can happen in an outpatient setting, in the home, or in a residential facility**
- **Choice of 13 brain injury providers**

Pennsylvania Head Injury Program

Eligibility requirements:

- Have a traumatic brain injury certified by a physician
- 18 years or older
- US Citizen
- PA resident at time of injury and application
- Other financial resources for rehab exhausted
- Meet income guidelines

Pre-Enrollment Assistance

- **Program to assist individuals with traumatic brain injury and their families to apply for services through the PA Head Injury Program (HIP)**
- **Pre-Enrollment Assistance Coordinator is assigned to assist individuals in their homes and communities with the application process and to provide information about resources.**

For more information about HIP

- HIP rack card
- <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/programs/Pages/Head-Injury.aspx>
- To apply, contact the PA Department of Health:
717-772-2763

Acquired Brain Injury Program

- New program operated by the Pennsylvania Department of Health
- Funds rehabilitation services for individuals with non-traumatic acquired brain injury ages 18-21
- Services can happen in an outpatient setting, day treatment program, or home and community based setting
- To apply, contact the PA Department of Health: 717-772-2763 or the Brain Injury Helpline: 1-866-412-4755

Medicaid Waivers

- There used to be several different waivers
- The system has transitioned to Managed Care and there is now one waiver: Community Health Choices (CHC)
 - For those 21 and over
 - All disabilities
- Exception: OBRA waiver
 - For those 18-20
 - The disability must result in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following major life activities:
 - Self-care, communication, learning, mobility, self-direction and capacity for independent living.

Waiver Eligibility

- Financial
 - Must have or apply for Medicaid
- Functional
 - Will undergo an assessment to determine level of care needed. This will happen in the applicant's home
 - It is important to have someone who knows the person well to participate along with the applicant to help the assessor understand the needs of the person

Medicaid Waivers.

- Provide funding for home and community-based services to qualified individuals
- Can provide Long Term Services and Supports
- To apply: *1-877-550-4227*

CHC services

- Adult daily living services
- Assistive Technology
- **Behavior therapy**
- Benefits counseling
- Career assessment
- **Cognitive rehabilitation therapy**
- Community integration
- Community transition services
- **Counseling**
- **Employment skills development**
- Financial management services
- Home adaptations
- Home delivered meals
- Home health aide
- Home health – nursing
- Job coaching
- Job finding
- Non-medical transportation
- Nutritional counseling
- Participant-directed community supports
- Participant-directed goods and services
- **Personal assistance services**
- Personal emergency response system (PERS)
- Pest eradication
- Residential habilitation
- Respite
- Service coordination
- **Structured day habilitation**
- TeleCare
- Vehicle modifications

OBRA Medicaid Waiver Services

- Adult Daily Living
- Employment Skills Development
- Job Coaching (Intensive and Extended Follow-along)
- Personal Assistance Services
- Residential Habilitation Services
- Respite
- Service Coordination
- Structured Day Habilitation Services
- Behavior Therapy Services
- Nursing Services
- Occupational Therapy Services
- Physical Therapy Services
- Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies
- Speech and Language Therapy Services
- Community Integration
- Community Transition Services
- Counseling Services
- Home Adaptations
- Job Finding
- Non-Medical Transportation
- Nutritional Consultation
- Personal Emergency Response System
- Prevocational Services
- Supported Employment
- Vehicle Modifications

Independent Enrollment Broker

- Program to help streamline eligibility assessment and enrollment into waiver programs
- Began on December 1, 2010
- For assistance or to make an application:
 - Toll free helpline: 1-877-550-4227
 - Toll free TTY line: 1-877-824-9346
- Must say, “I have a brain injury and want assistance from a brain injury – trained independent enrollment broker”

OVR – Office of Vocational Rehabilitation...

- Early Reach Initiative – ages 14-21 , individuals with disabilities
 - Early Reach Coordinator (local office)
 - Group Services
 - Individual Services
 - Career exploration
 - Work-based Learning Experiences and Job Shadowing
 - Counseling on Post-secondary Education
 - Workplace Readiness Training
 - Instruction on Self-Advocacy

OVR – Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

Services for adults

- Must have a disability
- Must have an employment goal
- Diagnostic services
- Vocational evaluations
- Counseling
- Restoration services
- Direct services and services through approved vendors

NeuroResource Facilitation Program (NRFP)

- Funded by federal grant – Administration of Community Living (through May 2021)
- Service for residents of PA with TBI age 18 and over
- A NeuroResource facilitator is assigned to each client
 - *Provide information about local resources, services, and supports;*
 - *Assist individuals and their families with navigating and pursuing appropriate services and supports;*
 - *Help to create a plan and provide ongoing support;*
 - *Partner with individuals and their families to help ensure that they can continue to access resources, services, and supports after completing the program.*
- Service begins with an in-person meeting, service is ongoing for 6 months

For more information

- NRFP rack card
- <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/programs/Pages/NeuroResource-Facilitation-Program.aspx>
- To access this program, call 717-772-2763