A Gift for You

Your time is valuable

RESPITE VOUCHER PROGRAM

Developmental Disabilities Services
Area I Oklahoma City 1-800-522-1064
Area II Tulsa 1-800-522-1075
Area III Pauls Valley  1-800-522-1086
Email: DDS.respitevoucher@okdhs.org
Fax: 405-522-8016
http://www.okdhs.org

Developmental Disabilities Services
Area Offices and Resource Centers
DDS MISSION STATEMENT

“To enable people with developmental disabilities to lead healthy, independent and productive lives to the fullest extent possible; to promote the full exercise of their rights as citizens of their communities, state and country; and to promote the integrity and well-being of their families.”

To apply for the Respite Voucher Program, use this map to locate the Developmental Disabilities Services Office for the area in which you reside. Call the Intake Unit in that office and ask for a Respite Voucher Application.
Who’s Who?

- **Caregiver** - The person residing with and providing primary or full-time care for a family member or another person who may have disabilities.

- **Care recipient** - The person who has disabilities and receives full-time, ongoing, daily care from the caregiver.

- **Respite provider** - The person selected by the caregiver to provide care for the care recipient and who is paid by a voucher through Developmental Disabilities Services.
Eligibility Requirements

The care recipient:
• has a developmental disability
• is a United States citizen or a qualified alien
• resides with and receives full-time care from a caregiver
• may be in DHS custody living in a family or kinship resource home
• does not receive services through a Home and Community-Based Services waiver or the ADvantage waiver
• receives less than 20 hours per week of state funded services such as sheltered workshop; community integrated employment; or adult day
• does not live in an assisted living facility; independently; or in a drug or alcohol treatment facility

The caregiver:
• must be an Oklahoma resident
• does not receive respite services funded through any other state or federal program or for the care recipient
• does not receive Family Support Assistance payments
• has an adjusted gross income of less than $75,000
Where can Respite Care Happen?

Respite care can be provided in the care recipient and caregiver’s home, someone else’s home, a center–based program, or a care center as long as agreed to by the caregiver and respite care provider. Respite care may also be provided in the form of a mentoring or tutoring program, martial arts, or a camp for individuals who have a developmental disability.

How is a Respite Provider Paid?

Respite vouchers are issued to the caregiver in sets of three and are valid for 90 calendar days from the date issued. The caregiver and the respite provider complete and sign the respite voucher and submit it to DHS Finance for payment after the respite is provided. A check will be issued and sent directly to the respite provider.
Who can be a Respite Care Provider?

The caregiver hires a person of their choice within program guidelines and negotiates the hourly wage the respite provider will be paid.

The respite provider must:
- be over age 18
- have a Social Security card
- not reside in the same home with the care recipient and caregiver

The respite provider can be a family member, friend, church member or anyone the caregiver chooses as long as they meet the above criteria.

Vouchers will be provided to qualified caregivers as long as funds are available and all criteria continue to be met.
Are you a primary caregiver? Do you take care of a family member or another person living in your home who has disabilities?

Even though many families take great joy in providing care to their loved ones so they can remain at home, the physical, emotional and financial consequences for the caregiver can be overwhelming without some support.

Everyone needs a break and time to recharge, time with a spouse or other family members, or just time to run an errand or go to the doctor.

Respite services can provide you the much-needed temporary break from the often-exhausting challenges you face. With a respite voucher, you can pay another person to care for your loved one while you take time for yourself.