



## Overview for Self Advocates Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rule

**Overview:** The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a new rule for states that provide Medicaid services. The new rule defines qualities that should be present when and where individuals receive supports, and sets an expectation for states and providers to ensure individual choice and participation in their daily lives as well as in their planning. The rule tells states they have to help people be integrated in their communities and make sure that people know their rights and have choices in all areas of their lives.

The questions below should generally be answered as “yes” when you are supported in a person-centered way.

- Do you get to participate in your community?
- Did you get to select where you receive supports and services?
- Do you know you have rights about where you live and who you live with?
- Do you get every opportunity to make your own rules and be independent in making life choices?
- Did you get a choice regarding services and your staff?
- Do you have a lease or other legally enforceable agreement providing similar protections?
- Do you have privacy where you live, including lockable doors, choice of roommates and freedom to furnish or decorate where you live?
- Do you control your own schedule including access to food at any time?
- Can you have visitors at any time?
- Is your home or workplace physically accessible if you need it to be?

The bottom line is that the person makes the choice. This means a person can choose to live independently, or can choose to share a room or live in a group home without a lease. Each person’s situation needs to be reviewed and documented in their Individual Plan.

DDS partnered with stakeholders and Community Provider representatives to develop a planning process to comply with the Settings Rule. The plan is published on the DDS website: <http://www.ct.gov/dds/cwp/view.asp?a=2042&q=548534>

**What can you do?** Please give us your feedback by completing a brief survey. You can complete and submit online by following this link: <http://www.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?97B3DFC69FD4C0C391>

If you need to print and mail the survey, please mail to:

DDS Waiver Unit  
460 Capitol Ave  
Hartford CT 06106

You can fax the survey to 860-622-2769  
You can call Ivonne @ 860-418-6028 if you want a survey mailed to you.

If you want to tell us what you think about the Transition Plan and the DDS process for developing the plan you can email [dds.hcbstransition@ct.gov](mailto:dds.hcbstransition@ct.gov).

Thank you for your feedback from everyone in the DDS Waiver Unit.