GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY SERVICES

Effective Date: February 1, 2011	Number of Attachments: 0
Responsible Office: DDS Deputy Director, Developmental Disabilities Administration	
Supersedes Policy: N/A	
Title/Subject: **Out of State Placement Policy**	
Cross-References: Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Program	

All underlined words/definitions can be found in the **Definitions Appendix**.

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish the standards and guidelines by which the Department on Disability Services (DDS), Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), will place and support individuals who are served by DDA in jurisdictions other than the District of Columbia (District).

2. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all DDA employees and governmental agencies that provide services and supports on behalf of individuals with disabilities receiving services as part of the DDA Service Delivery System funded by DDA or the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF).

3. AUTHORITY

The authority for this policy is established in the Department on Disability Services as set forth in D.C. Law 16-264, the "Department on Disability Services Establishment Act of 2006," effective March 14, 2007 (D.C. Official Code § 7-761.01 *et seq.*); and D.C. Law 2-137, the "Mentally Retarded Citizens Constitutional Rights and Dignity Act of 1978," effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Official Code § 7-1301.01 *et seq.*).

4. POLICY

It is the policy of DDS to ensure all individuals receiving services from the DDA service system have access to and receive quality supports, services, and health care. Eligible individuals may receive the same services and supports irrespective of the location of residential placement.

5. RESPONSIBILITY

The responsibility for this policy is vested in the Director, Department on Disability Services. Implementation for this policy is the responsibility of the Deputy Director, Developmental Disabilities Administration.

6. STANDARDS

The following are the standards by which DDS will evaluate compliance with this policy:

A. Individuals will be placed in the least restrictive residential setting that least inhibits an individual's independence and right to liberty.

B. When individuals are placed in a residential setting outside of the District, DDA will make every reasonable effort to return them to the District for receipt of supports and services that meet their individual needs.

C. DDA will respect the preferences of individuals supported by DDA in regards to his or her choice of location of receiving of supports and services if those services can be secured in a cost equivalent manner in an out-of-state location.

D. DDA will be fiscally responsible and maximize the use of federal funding, such as the Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver Program, when purchasing services and supports for an individual outside of the District.

E. DDA will work to develop and/or secure cost-effective services and supports for individuals who return to the District.

F. This policy does not supersede, alter or modify any DDA policy regarding those individuals placed in the District.

Laura L Nuss

Laura L. Nuss, Director

2/2/2011

Approval Date