Operations Memo 2026-23

To: DDS Qualified Providers
From: Sean Bannon, Director, Operations Center
CC: Jordan Scheff, Commissioner, Elisa Velardo, Deputy Commissioner, Katie Rock-Burns, Chief of Staff, Nicholas Jerard, CFO, Regional Directors, Private ARDs, PRAT Managers, Resource Administrators, The Alliance, The ARC CT

Date: March 6, 2026

Subject: Employment & Day Funding Opportunity

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is excited to announce three **new time-limited incentive** opportunities! These opportunities are outlined below. For additional information please review each individual guidance document linked within each initiative. Providers are eligible to apply for more than one opportunity.

Please note that these are all time limited opportunities, with rolling review of applications through April 6, 2026, and funding to be expended by June 30, 2026. In addition, providers that do not have SID 12599 on their contract will need contract amendments in place. Please be sure to monitor your email for responses and follow up timely in order to ensure receipt of funding.

1. Reimagining Day Funding Opportunity

Opportunity for existing DSO provider agencies that submit a Reimagining Day Simplified Plan and receive approval to offer Employment Enrichment Service (EES), Employment Exploration Option (EEO), or both! This is a great opportunity to strengthen your program offerings and help individuals achieve their employment and day service goals.

For more information about this funding opportunity, review the 2026 Reimagining Day Funding Opportunity Guidance.

2. Reimagining Day and Employment Transition Services Curriculum & Resource Funding Opportunity

Reimagining Day and Employment Transition Service providers that submit a funding request and receive approval for the purchase of curriculum and additional resources to

support individuals in these programs will be eligible for this incentive. This is a great opportunity to strengthen your program offerings and help individuals achieve their employment and day service goals.

For more information about this funding opportunity, review the 2026 Reimagining Day and Employment Transition Services Curriculum & Resource Funding Opportunity Guidance.

3. Project SEARCH

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is launching a technical assistance initiative to strengthen Project SEARCH programs across Connecticut. This effort provides one-time funding per licensed program for DDS Qualified Providers to contract with Project SEARCH National for support. The funding covers on-site training and remote technical assistance to ensure fidelity to the Project SEARCH model. The initiative underscores DDS's commitment to helping individuals achieve competitive integrated employment through high-quality Project SEARCH programs.

For more information about this funding opportunity, review the 2026 Project SEARCH Funding Opportunity Guidance.

Providers may also reach out to DDS.Employment-DayServices@ct.gov with any questions that are not addressed in the individual guidance documents.