

## **Developmental Disabilities Waiting List Equity Trust Fund**

### **HOUSE BILL 631**

- House Bill 631 was passed by the 96<sup>th</sup> General Assembly and signed by the Governor to create the Developmental Disabilities Waiting List Equity Trust Fund.
- Beginning January 1, 2011, an individual or corporation may designate at least \$1 on a Missouri individual income tax return or at least \$2 on a combined return of his or her tax refund amount to the Developmental Disabilities Waiting List Equity Trust Fund.
- A taxpayer may also donate to this fund by sending a separate check with the payment of his or her taxes.
- Moneys in the Developmental Disabilities Waiting List Equity Trust Fund cannot be used to offset any state general revenue funding.
- The provisions of the bill will expire December 31 six years from the effective date.
- The State Treasurer shall be custodian of the fund.
- The fund shall be a dedicated fund and, upon appropriation, money in the fund shall be used solely for the administration of this section and for providing community services and support to people with developmental disabilities and such person's families who are on the developmental disabilities waiting list and are eligible for but not receiving services.
- Any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund.
- Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be credited to the fund.
- The moneys in the Developmental Disabilities Waiting List Equity Trust Fund established in this subsection shall not be appropriated in lieu of State general revenue funding.
- Treasurer shall distribute all moneys deposited in the fund at times the Treasurer deems appropriate to the Department of Mental Health – Division of Developmental Disabilities.

Link to House Bill 631: <http://www.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills111/biltxt/truly/HB0631T.htm>

# Developmental Disabilities Waiting List Equity Trust Fund

## Frequently Asked Questions

**1. *Why is the Waiting List Equity Trust Fund necessary?***

Division of Developmental Disabilities currently has over 4,000 individuals waiting for services. Individuals and families have been required to wait for months and years before the Division has been able to fund necessary services.

**2. *How will the funds be used by the Division of Developmental Disabilities?***

Waiting List Equity Trust Fund funding will be used to serve individuals on the Division waiting list. Services will include home modifications, medical equipment, supplies and other one-time purchases.

**3. *Why is the Division using the funds for one-time purchases?***

Division receives funding from the Waiting List Equity Trust Fund each year as individuals or corporations donate funds. Division must spend these donations on one-time items because there is no guarantee the funding will be donated in future years.

**4. *What is the balance of the Waiting List Equity Trust Fund?***

Waiting List Equity Trust Fund was recently established. The current balance is zero.

**5. *What happens to the Waiting List Equity Trust Fund six years after the effective date?***

House Bill 631 sunset clause requires the General Assembly to review the fund and determine if the fund should continue or be eliminated. If they decide to continue the fund legislation must be passed to continue the Waiting List Equity Trust Fund.

**6. *How can I get more information?***

Please contact the Division of Developmental Disabilities at 1-800-207-9329 or you can send an email to [ddmail@dmh.mo.gov](mailto:ddmail@dmh.mo.gov), if you have any additional questions.