

Prevention And Support Training Update Announcing New Name and Implementation Dates

Target Audience - Qualified Vendors and Providers

Transmittal Date - 03/02/2026

As [announced on September 8, 2025](#), the Division is modifying the current curriculum used for intervention (currently called Prevention and Support), which has been in place for nearly a decade. The DES Office of Professional Development, in collaboration with a group of Qualified Vendor trainers and DDD subject matter experts, has revised the training. To differentiate from the previous Prevention and Support curriculum, the Division has named the new curriculum, **Providing Respectful Opportunities and Understanding De-escalation (PROUD)**.

What's Changed?

This modified curriculum has been developed, incorporating industry best practices with a person-centered focus. The PROUD curriculum includes refreshed content in core topics, as well as the addition of person-centered topics, De-escalation & Safety Awareness and Trauma-Informed Support. Physical intervention techniques have also been revised to move in a less restrictive direction, focusing on building positive relationships between members and direct care workers (DCW)/direct support professionals (DSP). The curriculum will also now require DCW/DSP to understand and demonstrate de-escalation strategies. Finally, the instruction certification clinic will change from 3 days to 4 days of in-person instruction to streamline the path to instructor certification. Multiple clinics are scheduled throughout March, April, May, and June 2026. All applicants must complete the [PROUD New Instructor Clinic Packet](#) to register.

Implementation Dates

- All DCW/DSP with current Prevention & Support certification must be trained in the new curriculum by **December 31, 2027** unless the following applies:
 - All new Direct Care Workers/Direct Support Professionals hired after **July 31, 2026**, must be trained in the new curriculum.
 - All Direct Care Workers/Direct Support Professionals identified as needing retraining in member intervention techniques after **July 31, 2026** as a result of corrective action, must be trained in the new curriculum.

As a reminder, training is outlined in Article 9 ([Arizona Administrative Code 6-6-901 through 6-6-909](#)) and is required for all direct support professionals providing paid care to members who may exhibit unsafe behavior as documented in the member's planning document and behavior plan. Qualified Vendors with questions about training requirements should review the [Division Behavior Supports Manual Chapter 600 Training](#). Qualified Vendors with questions about PROUD should contact the [Training Unit](#).