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**CHAPTER 38: RESIDENTIAL OPTIONS WAIVER**

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**SELF-DIRECTION OPTION**

Self-direction is a service delivery option which allows recipients to become the employer of the direct service workers they choose to hire to provide their supports. As the employer, the recipient or his/her authorized representative are responsible for recruiting, training, supervising, and managing the direct service workers. This option gives the recipients the most control over their supports and services.

A required component of this option is the use of a contracted fiscal/employer agent, who will perform the recipient's employer-related payroll functions. Recipients must utilize support coordination services for the development of the Plan of Care (POC), budget planning, ongoing evaluation of supports and services, and for organizing the unique resources the recipient needs.

In the Residential Options Waiver (ROW), a recipient may choose to self-direct all or part of his/her Community Living Supports. Recipients can choose to receive other services for which he/she is eligible from a provider agency.

Recipients participating in this option must:

- Be a ROW recipient;
- Be able to participate in this self-direction service option without a lapse or decline in quality of care or an increased risk to his/her health and welfare;
- Complete the mandatory training including rights and responsibilities of managing his/her own services and supports offered by the support coordinator; and
- Understand the right, risks, and responsibilities of managing his/her own care, managing and using an individual budget; or if unable to make decisions independently, have a willing decision maker (authorized representative who is listed on the recipient's POC) who understands the rights, risks, and responsibilities of managing the care and supports of the recipient within his/her individualized budget.