

# Remote Monitoring **FACTS**

## What is remote monitoring?

When electronic equipment is used to support a person from a distance, we call that remote monitoring.

## Why use remote monitoring?

Remote monitoring promotes independence. It allows people to be both alone and safe in their homes.

## Assistive Technology

Many different things are called assistive technology. They range from wheelchairs to communication devices, and they are used to increase or maintain a person's abilities. Remote monitoring only uses electronics that allow a person to be supported from a distance.

## Electronic Equipment

A person with a disability and their team can create a remote monitoring system that works best for them. A video camera is only used when a person has decided that it can meet their needs. But a camera is not always used.

Sensor technology can be used, even when a camera is not used. Sensors are electronics that send messages to a support person when someone needs help. For example: a support person may get a message if someone burns their popcorn and it creates smoke. Sensors can be hidden and are easy to use.

## Conclusion

Remote monitoring helps people live safely at home without having someone else there. Everyone should think about whether they do or do not want remote monitoring, before they choose something more intrusive.

[Click here for the Home and Community-based Services waiver - remote monitoring rule](#)

Spending time with people is important for caregiving. Using technology will not replace the need for support people. This technology does give support workers more time to spend with those who have the most need.



**All waivers support remote services**



**Support people are always available to help**



**Remote service providers will provide training for customers about how to use the equipment provided**

## Waivers

All Ohio waivers for people with developmental disabilities support remote monitoring services and equipment. Each waiver has different rules about how to pay for these services.

### Self Empowered Life Funding (SELF) waiver

When the SELF waiver is used, the total cost cannot be more than \$25,000 every year. If remote monitoring is combined with community inclusion, residential respite, or community respite the total cost is still \$25,000. Also, remote monitoring equipment cannot cost more than \$5,000 per year.

### Level One Waiver

When a person uses a Level One waiver, the cost of services cannot cost more than \$7,500 every three years.

### The Individual Options Waiver (I-O)

The I-O Waiver does not have a limit on the amount of money that can be used for remote monitoring equipment or services.

**Remote Monitoring Services:**  
The use of technology to support a person in their home and make sure they are safe.

**Remote Monitoring Equipment:**  
Remote monitoring uses technology that can send a message very fast. Equipment includes things like door sensors, seizure mats, and cameras. This equipment comes with the ability to talk to support people from your home.

Remote monitoring is a service someone could use during times when they do not have a support person working in their home. Sometimes the best support comes from people working in the home. However, other times, having people in the homes of people with developmental disabilities might unintentionally encourage reliance on others. Remote monitoring gives people the chance to do more on their own, while remaining healthy and safe.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How do I know if I am able to use the service?

People in Ohio with developmental disability waivers are able to use remote monitoring. They should talk with their team to find out if remote monitoring can meet their needs.

### What do remote monitoring workers do at work?

Remote monitoring workers are focused on the people they serve. They will watch their computer and are ready to help in case of an emergency, or if someone needs to talk.

### What happens if the power goes out?

The remote monitoring provider has backup power. If a person's power goes out at home, then a support person will be sent to that home.

### What happens if there is an emergency?

If there is an emergency, the remote monitoring provider will call 9-1-1. A support person will also be called and come to the home. While the person waits, a remote monitoring worker will keep talking to the person until the emergency worker and support person arrive.

### Who is able to turn off the equipment?

Remote monitoring equipment can only be turned off by people who have permission. These people are listed in the Individual Support Plan.

### How do I know my information is safe?

Access to the technology is only given to people who need it. The computer's information can only be read by people who know the answers to questions the computer asks.

For more information on remote monitoring, visit:  
<http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/5123:2-9-35> or seek rule 5123:2-9-35

The mission of The Ohio State University Nisonger Center is to improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Even though a lot of people can use remote monitoring, only a small number of people are using it. This project aims to find out why so few people use remote monitoring services.

The project will also help us tell more people about remote monitoring and find ways to improve the technology.

Remote monitoring services can help many people with developmental disabilities to become more independent.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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