



Legislation passed during the 2017 Minnesota Legislative Session requires disability service providers licensed under the 245D statute to discuss technology solutions as a support option during care plan initiation meetings. The legislation went into effect on August 1, 2017.

45-day planning meeting statute (Section 245D.071, Subdivision 3c)

[View full legal definition >](#)¹

What it means in real life: Within 45 days of each service initiation (typically when a person moves into a new program or begins a new service) the support team must meet to develop a person-centered service and support plan around an individual's needs and desired outcomes, including reviewing whether the individual is living, working, and playing in the most integrated settings possible.

Required discussion around technology statute (Section 234D.071, Subdivision 3d)

[View full legal definition >](#)¹

What it means in real life: During the 45-day planning meeting, a discussion of the possibility of utilizing technology to help meet an individual's needs and achieve their desired outcomes must be had, and the resulting documentation of the plan must include what was discussed and any decisions made regarding technology, including necessary next steps.

Having the Conversation

There is no specification in statute or regulatory policy of what details need to be discussed regarding technology during the 45-day planning meeting; however, ARRM recommends the following questions be considered as a general framework:

- What do you already know about the person and how this will appeal to them?
- What areas of the person's life does s/he strive to be more independent in?
- How can technology help meet needs previously handled solely by direct care staff, and what does the transition look like?
- What concerns and fears does the person(s) and/or caregiver(s) have regarding the use of technology as a support option?

¹ <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/?id=90&year=2017&type=0#laws.0.12.0>

Completing a Report

The mandated documentation of the conversation on technology should be included in the [45-day meeting summary form](#)² provided by the DHS Licensing Division. The following template can be used as a guide and added to the summary form:

Discussion on the Use of Technology During 45-Day Meeting
1. The team discussed the use of technology to achieve some or all of the person's desired outcomes.
Yes
No
Summary of the discussion:
2. Was there a decision to use technology as part of the provision of services?
Yes
No
If yes describe:
3. Is further research needed before a decision is made?
Yes
No
If yes, describe what needs to be done:

Options for Next Steps

If it is decided technology will be a part of the service and support plan, possible next steps to include in your summary could be:

- Do any additional assessments of the individual for the specific use of technology identified
- Research and connect with potential suppliers of needed technology systems
- Connect with ARRM and DHS to determine strategies for funding and implementation
- Work with the individual served and/or their family/guardian to develop protocols for technology use and staff support

Refer to the [ARRM Technology Resource Center](#) for additional guides and tools for having effective conversations regarding technology.



²http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_FILE&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&Rendition=Primary&allowInterrupt=1&dDocName=DHS16_180205