

OUR MISSION

To provide innovative high quality services that enable people with disabilities to lead meaningful and productive lives as vital members of their families, schools, workplaces, and communities in every neighborhood in the District of Columbia.

WHO WE ARE

The Department on Disability Services is comprised of the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), and the Disability Determination Division (DDD). We coordinate a diverse network of service providers to assist people with disabilities in leading vibrant, self-directed lives. We offer an array of supports, including:

- Supports & Services for People with Intellectual Disabilities
- Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Independent Living Services
- Transition Services
- Medical Determination for SSI & SSDI

SUPPORTS FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

People with an Intellectual Disability (ID) typically need support in several major areas of their life in order to fully participate in their community, work, and more. Their ID must be diagnosed before they turn 18 years of age, including documentation of an intelligence quotient (IQ) score generally of 69 or below. If a person is found eligible for services, they will be paired with a Service Coordinator who will assist them in creating an Individual Service Plan (ISP). A person may be eligible for:

- Speech, Hearing & Language Services
- Occupational Therapy
- Physical Therapy
- Behavior Supports
- Employment Readiness
- Individualized Day Supports
- Respite Services
- Supported Living Services
- Supported Employment
- Art Therapies
- Assistive Technology Services
- Family Training

If it is determined that a person can benefit from ID services, DDS staff will assist them in completing an intake application. The following documents will be needed:

- Birth Certificate or Government Issued Identification (driver's license, SNAP card, etc.)
- Proof of District Residency
- Proof of Insurance
- Documents verifying ID diagnosis before age 18
- Applicable psychological, psychiatric, medical evaluations

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES

Our services help people with disabilities enter, retain, regain, or advance in employment. If a person is found eligible for services, he or she will be partnered with a vocational rehabilitation counselor.

- Information and Referral
- Assessment Services
- Counseling and Guidance
- Benefits Counseling
- Physical Restoration
- Vocational Training or Other Post-Secondary Education
- Job Search Assistance
- Job Placement and Coaching
- Supported Employment

People seeking vocational rehabilitation assistance must complete an intake application and an intake interview to assess strengths, challenges, past experiences, and future employment goals. The following documents will be needed:

- **Government issued I.D.** such as a driver's license or DC resident card
- **Reports & letters** such as medical disability reports, psychological evaluations, SSI or SSDI benefits award letters

INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

DDS partners with the DC Center for Independent Living (DCCIL) and other private agencies to provide the following core services.

- Information and Referral
- Independent Living Skills Training
- Advocacy
- Peer Support
- Transition

Connect with DCCIL @ www.dccil.org or call 202-388-0033; TTY: 202-470-1534.

SECONDARY TRANSITION SERVICES

Partnering with local schools, DDS ensures that students who are eligible or potentially eligible for vocational rehabilitation services receive transition services to help people prepare for and achieve long-term employment goals. Pre-Employment Transition Services are available to any student with a disability (IEP or 504 plan) ages 14 –22, enrolled in a secondary or post-secondary education setting. We also help youth diagnosed with ID transition to adult services with DDA.


DETERMINING IF WE'RE RIGHT FOR YOU


DDS is eager to help people with disabilities get the support they need to live their best lives. Our Intake Team works with people with disabilities, their family members and support teams to identify a person's:


- Strengths and Interests
- Goals and Vision for Life
- Employment Objectives
- Immediate- and Long-Term Support Needs

CONNECT WITH US

 **ONLINE** @ www.dds.dc.gov

 **Search for Services for People with Intellectual Disabilities or Vocational Rehabilitation Services**

 **Click the link:** [How to Apply for Services](#)

 **In Person** @ 250 E St., SW 20024
Call: 202-442-8400

 **Hours:** Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 5 pm

 **Nearest Metro Station:** Federal Center SW