

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PROGRAM

**TRANSITIONING
INTO
ADULT WAIVER SERVICES**

MISSION STATEMENT

“The Developmental Disabilities Program supports choices and opportunities for people with developmental disabilities in their community.”

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES DEFINITION

Developmental disabilities means disabilities attributable to Intellectual Disabilities, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or any other neurologically handicapping condition closely related to Intellectual Disabilities and requiring treatment similar to that required by intellectual disabled individuals if the disability originated before the person attained age 18, has continued or can be expected to continue indefinitely, and results in the person having a substantial disability. (MCA 53-20-202 (3))

DETERMINING INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

Three Criteria

- Intelligence (IQ)
- Adaptive Behavior
- Age of onset (Before 18 years old)

Factors to Consider

- Individuals can have a mental illness and Intellectual disability co-occurring
- Mental illness can decrease IQ

ELIGIBILITY PROCESS

- If not already referred, at age 16 the school, a physician, or parent should make a referral to the Developmental Disabilities Program (DDP) by calling the DDP Regional Office.
- A Case Manager gathers the documents necessary to determine eligibility. A recent psychological evaluation is required. Other documentation may include a recent doctor's reports, school evaluations, social history, etc.
- A state employee called a Quality Improvement Specialist (QIS) will complete a comprehensive assessment called the Vineland II.
- The QIS will gather the documents and send them to the Eligibility Specialist at the DDP Central Office in Helena.
- Eligibility criteria for services through DDP are separate from services received from schools, personal insurance, Medicaid, Social Security, etc. Receiving other assistance does not affect potential eligibility for services through DDP.



CASE MANAGEMENT

- If eligible for DDP services, the person will be placed on the waitlist for 0208 Waiver services
- If eligible they will also be assigned a Case Manager (either state or contracted)
- The Case Manager will ensure contact between the Developmental Disabilities Program. Schools and teachers are encouraged to invite the assigned Case Manager to the Individual Education Plan (IEP's) meeting.



WAIVERS

“Waivers” allow states to provide services that are different from what is provided through State Plan Medicaid.

Waiver programs are created to keep individuals with disabilities in their home communities and out of institutions, hospitals, and nursing facilities.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY WAIVERS

- **0208 Waiver – Comprehensive Waiver**
- **We have ended all other waivers, the CAW (Children’s Autism Waiver) will be gone as soon as the current participants have completed the eligibility period (3 years of services)**

THE WAITLIST FOR SERVICES

- Placed on the waitlist for services after being determined eligible
- Waitlist has over 1,000 people on it currently selection is based on date on list
- Once selected the person can choose from the menu of services
- We do have stringent emergency selection rule that if a person meets the criteria they can be offered a Waiver slot. If you have someone that you feel would meet the criteria, please touch base with one of us ASAP

SERVICES

- Day Habilitation
- Homemaker
- Live-in Caregiver
- Residential Habilitation
- Respite
- Supported Employment
- WCCM – Waiver-funded Children’s Case Management
- Occupational Therapy Services
- Physical Therapy Services
- Psychological & Counseling Services

SERVICES (continued)

- Speech Therapy Services
- Personal Supports
- Support Brokerage
- Adult Companion
- Adult Foster Support
- Assisted Living
- Board Certified Behavior Analyst
- Caregiver Training & Support
- Community Transition Services
- Dietician
- Environmental Modification/Adaptive Equipment



SERVICES (continued)

- Individual Goods & Services
- Meals
- Personal Care
- Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)
- Private Duty Nursing
- Transportation
- Respiratory Therapy
- Educational Services
- Health/Health Maintenance/Safety Supports
- Social, Leisure, & Recreational Supports

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT FIRST INITIATIVE

The Montana Developmental Disabilities Program believes that employment and inclusion in communities is important in the lives of individuals in services. All working-age individuals in services should have the opportunity to participate in meaningful work in integrated community employment, earn at least minimum or competitive wages, and enjoy the benefits of community employment. The choice of the employment setting considered must use person centered planning concepts and should be based on informed choice. Although other employment options are valued as a pathway toward integrated employment, paid work in the community should be the primary service considered during the planning process.

INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT

Individual has full or part-time paid work. The job is based upon identified needs and interests, the workplace is in the community and generally has regular contact with people without disabilities, or the individual is self-employed in their own business. The job must pay at least minimum wage unless the person is self employed. There are three models of integrated employment depending on how on-going works support is available:

- Individual Competitive Employment – planned natural/coworker support is available when needed ;
- Individual Supported Employment – Job Coach is available to assist the business in helping the worker and supports the individual when needed;
- Group Supported Employment – Small (2-8) group of individuals work in a community setting under the supervision of a provider agency .



**Contact any of the DDP Regional offices
listed below for more information:**

Region 1: Glasgow 228-8264

Region 2: Great Falls 454-6085

Region 3: Billings 259-8122

Region 4: Helena 444-1714

Region 5: Missoula 329-5415

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

