



THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE
TO ADVANCE ADOLESCENT HEALTH



DC | **HEALTH**

GOVERNMENT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

Navigation Tool

*for Youth and Families in
the District of Columbia Moving from
Child to Adult Public Program Services*

Developed by

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About The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health/Got Transition®

The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health is a nonprofit organization based in the District of Columbia (DC) whose mission is to support long-term, systemic improvements in comprehensive health care and insurance coverage for adolescents through education, policy analysis, technical assistance, and advocacy. Since 2010, the National Alliance has been funded by the District of Columbia Department of Health (“DC Health”) to expand the availability of evidence-based health care transition supports to youth with and without special needs in the District. The National Alliance also operates Got Transition, the federally funded national resource center on health care transition. For more information about the National Alliance, please visit TheNationalAlliance.org, and for more information about Got Transition, please visit GotTransition.org.

Workgroup Members

This *Navigation Tool for Transition-Aged Youth and Families in the District of Columbia* was developed with input from a DC Interagency Transitional Care Workgroup, whose members include representatives from the following:

- Child and Family Services Agency
- DC Health
- DC Public Schools
- Department of Behavioral Health
- Department of Health Care Finance
- Department of Human Services
- Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services
- Department on Aging and Community Living
- Department on Disability Services
- Developmental Disabilities Council
- Family Support Council
- Health Services for Children with Special Needs, Inc.
- Office of the State Superintendent of Education

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Introduction

Do you need help with understanding what public services are available in DC as your youth transitions into adult services?

This navigation tool was developed to be a resource for families and professionals who are helping youth with special needs and their caregivers as they move from child to adult public program services. This tool should be used as a starting point to learn about specific agencies and services. To find out more, please visit each agency's website.

Transition to adulthood involves major shifts in education, health care, work, and independent living. For many youth, the transition to adult services can be hard. This includes youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities, in foster care, from immigrant families, who are parents, with substance abuse conditions, who have been committed, who have dropped out of school, and more. It is important to support all youth during this transition period to help them move smoothly into adulthood.

Please note, this navigation tool was developed during the 2020 COVID-19 public health pandemic. Agency descriptions may reflect procedures adopted due to the pandemic. Please check with the agency websites for the most updated information.

This tool seeks to:

- Provide a clear, accurate description of program eligibility, documentation requirements, and services provided by these 10 DC public programs:
 - Child and Family Services Agency
 - Department of Behavioral Health
 - Department of Health Care Finance
 - Department of Human Services
 - Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services
 - Department on Aging and Community Living
 - Developmental Disabilities Administration
 - Office of the State Superintendent of Education
 - Rehabilitation Services Administration
 - Social Security Administration
- Identify ages when youth are no longer eligible for each program

A few tips:

- During ages 18-21, eligibility for public program services changes; each agency is different.
- Certain services available for children (e.g., special education, Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment) do not continue into adulthood.
- Keep copies of all medical and psychological reports. This information may be required to qualify for adult services.
- Create electronic/digital copies of health forms (e.g., insurance card) to upload and store securely on an electronic device.
- It is never too early to begin planning for transition to adulthood.

This navigation tool is organized into four parts:

1. Summary Table of Services for Transition-Aged Youth and Young Adults
 - This provides a snapshot of each agency's services
2. Agency Descriptions
 - These provide detailed information about each agency's services available to youth and young adults, eligibility criteria, and documentation requirements for these programs
3. Additional Transition Resources
4. About Me
 - This communication tool is designed to help youth share what is important to them with professionals

Summary Table of Services for Transition-Aged Youth and Young Adults

Agencies marked with an X can either provide or refer you to the services listed in the left column.

Services	Agencies									
	DHS	DHCF	SSA	OSSE	DDA	RSA	DBH	CFSA	DYRS	DACL
Health Insurance		X	X							
Health Care		X		X	X					
Behavioral Health Care	X	X		X			X	X	X	
Dental Care		X								
Case Management/ Care Coordination	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Social Services	X				X			X	X	X
Income Support	X		X							
Independent Living/ Housing Assistance	X			X	X	X		X	X	
Educational Supports	X			X			X	X	X	
Employment Supports	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	
Community Prevention Services	X						X	X	X	
Transportation	X	X								X

DHS: Department of Human Services

DHCF: Department of Health Care Finance

SSA: Social Security Administration

OSSE: Office of the State Superintendent of Education

DDA: Developmental Disabilities Administration

RSA: Rehabilitation Services Administration

DBH: Department of Behavioral Health

CFSA: Child and Family Services Agency

DYRS: Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services

DACL: Department on Aging and Community Living

Department of Human Services

64 New York Avenue, NE, 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20002 | dhs.dc.gov | 202-671-4200

Description

The Department of Human Services (DHS) is DC's primary social service provider and includes an Economic Security Administration (ESA) and Family Services Administration (FSA). ESA determines eligibility for benefits for children, adults, and families for several public programs described below. ESA Service Centers are located at the addresses listed below. FSA provides protection, intervention, and social services to meet the needs of vulnerable adults and families to help reduce risk and promote self-sufficiency for the programs listed below.

Congress Heights Service Center
4049 South Capitol Street, SW
7:30 am - 4:45 pm, Monday – Friday
202-645-4525

H Street Service Center
645 H Street, NE
7:30 am - 4:45 pm, Monday – Friday
202-698-4350

Taylor Street Service Center
1207 Taylor Street, NW
7:30 am - 4:45 pm, Monday – Friday
202-576-8000

Anacostia Service Center
2100 Martin Luther King Avenue, SE (Temporarily closed due to COVID-19)
7:30 am - 4:45 pm, Monday – Friday
202-645-4614

Fort Davis Service Center
3851 Alabama Avenue, SE (Temporarily closed due to COVID-19)
7:30 am - 4:45 pm, Monday – Friday
202-645-4500

Economic Security Administration (ESA)

ESA programs include Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Medical Assistance (Medicaid/Healthy Families, Healthcare Alliance, Immigrant Children's Program), and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly Food Stamps). The Department of Health Care Finance administers the three Medical Assistance programs described below.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

The District's TANF program provides cash assistance to families with children who need financial support because of a parent's death, absence from home, unemployment, or physical or mental incapacity.

Eligibility Requirements

- DC residency
- Pregnant or responsible for a child under age 19
- US citizen, legal alien, or permanent resident
- Meet income requirements based on household size. Income limits and current maximum monthly TANF benefit amounts can be found in the blue table [here](#)
- Meet low resource requirements (click [here](#) for more information)
- Complete orientation and interview with a DHS specialist (click [here](#) for more information)
- Develop an Individual Responsibility Plan (click [here](#) for more information)

Documentation Requirements

- A combined application is available online for TANF, SNAP, Medical Assistance (for elderly and disabled) and Interim Disability Assistance (click [here](#))
- Applications can be submitted in-person at an ESA Service Center, online via the DC Access Mobile App, or mailing a hardcopy to:

DHS ESA
Case Record Management Unit
P.O. Box 91560
Washington, DC 20090

Services & Supports

- Monthly cash assistance
- Childcare subsidy
- TANF Employment Program – provides coaching towards education and employment goals
- Tuition Assistance Program Initiative for TANF – financial assistance to enroll in post-secondary educational programs or professional certificate or licensing programs
- Behavioral, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Support – referrals to the Department of Behavioral Health to manage mental, emotional, substance abuse issues for parents or their children

Medicaid/Healthy Families

DC Healthy Families provides free health insurance (Medicaid) to DC residents who meet certain income and US citizenship or eligible immigration status.

Eligibility Requirements

Vary based on household income, family size, and type of eligibility group, as follows: (switch back)

- For children ages 18 and under, household income must be at or below 324% of the federal poverty level (FPL)
- For pregnant women, household income must be at or below 324% FPL
- For children ages 19 and 20, household income must be at or below 221% FPL. Upon turning 19, Medicaid will re-evaluate those previously receiving Medicaid to determine continued qualification under this 19-20 group; reapplication is not required.
- For childless adults, ages 21-64, household income must be at or below 215% FPL. Upon turning 21, Medicaid will re-evaluate those previously receiving Medicaid to determine continued qualification under this childless adult group; reapplication is not required.
- For current or former foster care children up to age 26, there is automatic eligibility
- For those receiving SSI, there is automatic eligibility

- For those who are aged, blind, or disabled, household income must be at or below 100% FPL and must also have resources at or below \$4,000 for an individual or \$6,000 for a couple
- For children ages 18 and under with long-term disabilities or complex medical needs and live at home (TEFRA/Katie Beckett), household income must be below 300% of SSI and must also have individual resources equal to or less \$2,600 after application of a disregard of all countable resources between \$2,600 and 4,000
- For those participating in waivers: intellectual and developmental disabilities waiver (click [here](#)), elderly and physical disabilities waiver (click [here](#)), and behavioral health transformation waiver programs (click [here](#)), specific eligibility criteria are used
- For some eligibility groups with incomes over the limit, it may be possible to spend down to qualify depending on your income and whether you have met the spend-down deductible. These groups are Medically Needy Children under 19, Medically Needy Children Ages 19 and 20, Medically Needy Pregnant Women, Medically Needy Parents and Other Caretaker Relatives, Medically Needy Aged, Blind & Disabled, and Medically Needy Individuals Applying for or Receiving Long Term Care Services and Supports.

Documentation Requirements

- If you are pregnant or between 0-20 years of age, a parent/caretaker, or a childless adult, complete the DC Health Link Application online (click [here](#)) or by phone (855-532-5465)
- If you are elderly, blind, or disabled, complete the applications listed [here](#)
- DC residency, social security number, employer and income information for everyone in family (e.g., recent paystubs, W-2 forms, or wage and tax statements)

Services & Supports

- Physician and nurse practitioner services
- Inpatient hospital services
- Outpatient hospital services
- Federally qualified health center services
- Laboratory and X-ray services
- Prescription drugs
- Dental services
- Optometry services
- Family planning services
- Transportation to medical care
- Physical, occupational, and speech therapy services
- Personal care
- Home care
- Nursing facility services
- Hospice
- Case management
- Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Services for children under 21 (including medical/behavioral/dental screenings and diagnostic and treatment services)
- Health home services for enrollees with multiple chronic conditions
- Waiver services for qualifying participants

Healthcare Alliance

The DC Healthcare Alliance provides free health insurance to DC residents who meet certain financial eligibility requirements and do not have Medicaid or other health insurance.

Eligibility Requirements

- Adults, ages 21 and older
- DC residency
- Have income at or below 200% of the FPL
- Have resources (e.g., a bank account) at or below \$4,000 for one person and \$6,000 for families
- Not eligible for Medicaid
- Have no health insurance, including Medicare and Medicaid

Documentation Requirements

- Complete the application online (click [here](#)) or by phone (855-532-5465)
- Proof of DC residency, social security number, employer and income information for each household member (e.g., recent paystubs, W-2 forms, or wage and tax statements)
- Face-to-face interview
- Benefits must be renewed every 6 months

Services & Supports

- Doctor visits
- Preventive care (checkups, diet, and nutrition)
- Prenatal care
- Prescription drugs
- Lab services
- Medical supplies
- Dental services up to \$1,000

Immigrant Children's Program

The Immigrant Children's Program provides free health insurance to DC children under age 21 who are not eligible for Medicaid due to citizenship or immigration status.

Eligibility Requirements

- Children under age 21
- DC residency
- Have income at or below 200% of the FPL
- Not eligible for Medicaid
- Have no health insurance, including Medicare and Medicaid

Documentation Requirements

- Complete the application online (click [here](#)) or by phone (855-532-5465)
- Proof of DC residency, social security number, employer and income information for each household member (e.g., recent paystubs, W-2 forms, or wage and tax statements)
- Application must be renewed every 6 months

Services & Supports

Once eligible, the youth will be assigned a managed care plan, with a 90-day period to request a change to their managed care provider. No copays or fees will be charged for health services.

- Physician and nurse practitioner services
- Inpatient hospital services
- Outpatient hospital services
- Federally qualified health center services
- Laboratory and X-ray services
- Prescription drugs
- Dental services
- Optometry services
- Family planning services
- Transportation to medical care
- Physical, occupational, and speech therapy services
- Personal care
- Home care
- Nursing facility services
- Hospice
- Case management
- Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Services for children under 21 (including medical/behavioral/dental screenings and diagnostic and treatment services)
- Health home services for enrollees with multiple chronic conditions
- Waiver services for qualifying participants

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP/Food Stamps)

The District's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly known as Food Stamps) helps low-income DC individuals and families buy food they need for good health.

Eligibility Requirements

- TANF and SSI recipients qualify
- Household income at or below 200% FPL
- Less than \$2,250 in countable resources; \$3,500 if person has a disability

Documentation Requirements

- A combined application is available online for TANF, SNAP, Medical Assistance (for elderly and disabled) and Interim Disability Assistance (click [here](#))
- Applications can be completed in-person at an ESA Service Center, online via the DC Access Mobile App, or mailing to:

DHS ESA
Case Record Management Unit
P.O. Box 91560
Washington, DC 20090

Services & Supports

- Electronic Benefit Transfer card, which is like a debit card, can be used for purchase of food items
- SNAP Employment and Training Program: Assists SNAP recipients in achieving career goals by providing a broad range of services, including assistance in interviewing, resumes, financial literacy, and reimbursements for eligible transportation, childcare, and other expenses related to participation. For information, contact 202-535-1178.

Interim Disability Assistance (IDA)

Interim Disability Assistance (IDA) provides temporary financial assistance to adults with disabilities who are ineligible for TANF and who have applied for and are awaiting approval of Supplemental Security Income. IDA funds are contingent upon availability.

Eligibility Requirements

- Between ages 18 and 65
- Permanently and totally disabled
- DC residency
- Ineligible for TANF because no eligible child lives at home
- Awaiting SSI eligibility decision

Documentation Requirements

- A combined application is available online for TANF, SNAP, Medical Assistance (for elderly and disabled) and Interim Disability Assistance (click [here](#))
- Applications can be submitted in-person at an ESA Service Center, online via the DC Access Mobile App, or by mail to:

DHS ESA
Case Record Management Unit
P.O. Box 91560
Washington, DC 20090

- Proof of citizenship/alien status
- Social security number
- Application for SSI

Services & Supports

- Temporary cash assistance

Family Services Administration (FSA)

FSA provides protection, intervention, and social services to meet the needs of vulnerable children, adults, and families to help reduce risk and promote self-sufficiency. FSA also provides emergency and ongoing housing support and services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless and provides transition support into permanent affordable housing. Family and Refugee Services are provided in collaboration with a network of service providers to ensure that necessary assistance is given.

FSA administers the Youth Services Division (YSD), which includes Parent and Adolescent Support Services (PASS), Functional Family Therapy (FFT) program, PASS Crisis and Support Team (PCAST), Teen Parent Assessment Program (TPAP), and the Youth Homeless Services (YHS). These programs provide social services and/or behavioral health supports regarding school disengagement/truancy, teen pregnancy, low level status offenses, and/or housing instability. YSD offers the following programs in which anyone from the community can make a referral or a person can refer themselves for assistance.

FSA also administers the Family Division, which is responsible for providing homeless services to families experiencing homelessness. Information for Youth Head of Households experiencing homelessness is provided below.

Parent and Adolescent Support Services (PASS)

Referrals can be made online, by email (dhs.pass@dc.gov), or phone (202-698-4334). Click [here](#) for the referral form.

Eligibility Requirements (all must be met)

- Youth, ages 10-17 years of age
- Are committing status offenses (e.g., skipping school, running away from home, violating curfew, and/or being extremely disobedient)
- Parents/guardians and youth must commit to participating in the case planning process and in recommended services
- Families are not eligible if they have an open case with the Child and Family Services Agency or if the youth has an active case with the Court Social Services or the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services

Services and Supports

- Intensive case management
- Functional Family Therapy (FFT) in partnership with DBH and the Transition to Independence Process, which is a case management system for older youth with emotional and behavioral challenges.
- All youth receiving PASS services have access to free community support services, such as mentoring, tutoring, and after-school programming

Functional Family Therapy (FFT)

Referrals can be made online, by email (dhs.pass@dc.gov), or phone (202-698-4334). Click [here](#) for the referral form.

Eligibility Requirements

- DC residents with youth, 10-17 years of age
- Are committing status offenses (e.g., skipping school, running away from home, violating curfew, and/or being extremely disobedient)
- Parents/guardians and youth must commit to participating in FFT
- Families are not eligible if they have an open case with the Child and Family Services Agency or if the youth has an active case with the Court Social Services or the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services
- Private medical insurance is preferred, but not required

Services & Supports

- An intensive, short-term intervention/prevention program that offers in-home family counseling designed specifically to address status-offending behaviors (i.e., curfew violations, running away, and truancy) and juvenile delinquency from a relational/family-based perspective. Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, in-home family counseling may take place using telehealth.

PASS Crisis and Support Team (PCAST)

Referrals can be made online, by email (dhs.pass@dc.gov), or phone (202-698-4334). Click [here](#) for the referral form.

Eligibility Requirements

- Youth, 10-17 years of age
- High risk behaviors, which without immediate intervention are expected to escalate to self-harm or the harm of others
- Chronic running away
- Gang/crew involvement
- Suspicion or confirmation of human trafficking
- Expectation that psychiatric hospitalization is imminent without crisis intervention
- Additional behavioral health crises determined to be immediately and adversely impacting life quality

Services & Supports

- Case management to address and stabilize crisis situations

Teen Parent Assessment Project (TPAP)

Referrals can be made online, by email (fsa.tpap@dc.gov), or phone (202-698-4334). Click [here](#) for the referral form.

Eligibility Requirements

- DC resident
- 18 years of age or younger
- Pregnant or parenting
- In need of supportive services
- Have not, but are willing to, complete high school diploma/GED
- Receiving TANF or eligible for TANF benefits

Services & Supports

- Support with school enrollment and/or maintaining school attendance
- Assistance with obtaining a daycare voucher and locating childcare
- Application assistance for TANF, WIC benefits, and health insurance
- Referral to behavioral and physical health services for teen and child
- Education in parenting, sex education, and personal enrichment
- Linkages to other social service agencies to address other identified needs

Youth Homeless Services (YHS)

For more information, call or email Youth Homeless Services at 202-698-4334, fsa.hope@dc.gov or the Runaway and Homeless Youth Hotline at 202-547-7777 (for minor services). For a list of Drop-In Centers and Emergency Shelters for youth, click [here](#).

Eligibility Requirements

- 24 years old or younger
- Experiencing homelessness, living in doubled-up circumstances, in transitional housing, in shelter, or at risk of homelessness

Services & Supports

- Prevention services, including family counseling and medication
- Short-term crisis intervention and counseling
- Short-term case management
- Community-based services, such as drop-in centers, street outreach, stabilization and emergency, short and long-term housing
- Workshops on mental health and supportive services

Department of Health Care Finance

441 4th Street, NW, 900S, Washington, DC 20001 | dhcf.dc.gov | 202-442-5988

Description

The Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) is DC's Medicaid agency, administering health insurance programs for low income and disabled children, adults, and families. DC's Medicaid program is called DC Healthy Families. DHCF also administers DC Healthcare Alliance, a locally funded health coverage program for low income individuals and families not eligible for Medicaid. DHCF also administers the Immigrant Children's Program for children under age 21 who are not eligible for Medicaid due to citizenship or immigration status. The Department of Human Services (DHS) determines eligibility for these insurance programs.

Medicaid/Healthy Families

DC Healthy Families provides free health insurance (Medicaid) to DC residents who meet certain income and US citizenship or eligible immigration status.

Eligibility Requirements

Vary based on household income, family size, and type of eligibility group, as follows:

- For children ages 18 and under, household income must be at or below 324% of the federal poverty level (FPL)
- For pregnant women, household income must be at or below 324% FPL
- For children ages 19 and 20, household income must be at or below 221% FPL. Upon turning 19, Medicaid will re-evaluate those previously receiving Medicaid to determine continued qualification under this 19-20 group; reapplication is not required.
- For childless adults, ages 21-64, household income must be at or below 215% FPL. Upon turning 21, Medicaid will re-evaluate those previously receiving Medicaid to determine continued qualification under this childless adult group; reapplication is not required.
- For current or former foster care children up to age 26, there is automatic eligibility
- For those receiving SSI, there is automatic eligibility
- For those who are aged, blind, or disabled, household income must be at or below 100% FPL and must also have resources at or below \$4,000 for an individual or \$6,000 for a couple
- For children ages 18 and under with long-term disabilities or complex medical needs and live at home (TEFRA/Katie Beckett), household income must be below 300% of SSI and must also have individual resources equal to or less \$2,600 after application of a disregard of all countable resources between \$2,600 and 4,000
- For those participating in waivers: intellectual and developmental disabilities waiver (click [here](#)), elderly and physical disabilities waiver (click [here](#)), and behavioral health transformation waiver programs (click [here](#)), specific eligibility criteria are used
- For some eligibility groups with incomes over the limit, it may be possible to spend down to qualify depending on your income and whether you have met the spend-down deductible. These groups are Medically Needy Children under 19, Medically Needy Children Ages 19 and 20, Medically Needy Pregnant Women, Medically Needy Parents and Other Caretaker Relatives, Medically Needy Aged, Blind & Disabled, and Medically Needy Individuals Applying for or Receiving Long Term Care Services and Supports.

Documentation Requirements

- If you are pregnant or between 0-20 years of age, a parent/caretaker, or a childless adult, complete the DC Health Link Application online (click [here](#)) or by phone (855-532-5465)
- If you are elderly, blind, or disabled, complete the applications listed [here](#)
- DC residency, social security number, employer and income information for everyone in family (e.g., recent paystubs, W-2 forms, or wage and tax statements)

Services & Supports

- Physician and nurse practitioner services
- Inpatient hospital services
- Outpatient hospital services
- Federally qualified health center services
- Laboratory and X-ray services
- Prescription drugs
- Dental services
- Optometry services
- Family planning services
- Transportation to medical care
- Physical, occupational, and speech therapy services
- Personal care
- Home care
- Nursing facility services
- Hospice
- Case management
- Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Services for children under 21 (including medical/behavioral/dental screenings and diagnostic and treatment services)
- Health home services for enrollees with multiple chronic conditions
- Waiver services for qualifying participants

Healthcare Alliance

Eligibility Requirements

- Adults, ages 21 and older
- DC residency
- Have income at or below 200% of the FPL
- Have resources (e.g., a bank account) at or below \$4,000 for one person and \$6,000 for families
- Not eligible for Medicaid
- Have no health insurance, including Medicare and Medicaid

Documentation Requirements

- Complete the application online (click [here](#)) or by phone (855-532-5465)
- Proof of DC residency, social security number, employer and income information for each household member (e.g., recent paystubs, W-2 forms, or wage and tax statements)
- Face-to-face interview
- Benefits must be renewed every 6 months

Services & Supports

- Doctor visits
- Preventive care (checkups, diet, and nutrition)

- Prenatal care
- Prescription drugs
- Lab services
- Medical supplies
- Dental services up to \$1,000

Immigrant Children's Program

The Immigrant Children's Program provides free health insurance to DC children under age 21 who are not eligible for Medicaid due to citizenship or immigration status.

Eligibility Requirements

- Children under age 21
- DC residency
- Have income at or below 200% of the FPL
- Not eligible for Medicaid
- Have no health insurance, including Medicare and Medicaid

Documentation Requirements

- Complete the application online (click [here](#)) or by phone (855-532-5465)
- Proof of DC residency, social security number, employer and income information for each household member (e.g., recent paystubs, W-2 forms, or wage and tax statements)
- Application must be renewed every 6 months

Services & Supports

Once eligible, the youth will be assigned a managed care plan, with a 90-day period to request a change to their managed care provider. No copays or fees will be charged for health services.

- Physician and nurse practitioner services
- Inpatient hospital services
- Outpatient hospital services
- Federally qualified health center services
- Laboratory and X-ray services
- Prescription drugs
- Dental services
- Optometry services
- Family planning services
- Transportation to medical care
- Physical, occupational, and speech therapy services
- Personal care
- Home care
- Nursing facility services
- Hospice
- Case management
- Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Services for children under 21 (including medical/behavioral/dental screenings and diagnostic and treatment services)
- Health home services for enrollees with multiple chronic conditions
- Waiver services for qualifying participants

Social Security Administration

Local Social Security Office addresses listed below | ssa.gov/disability | 800-722-1213

Description

The Social Security Administration (SSA) administers the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program that provides monthly payments for children and adults with disabilities who have limited income and resources. The SSA is a federal program with local offices in Washington, DC (see locations below). If you cannot use SSA's online services, the local offices can help you apply. For information about Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits, click [here](#).

2100 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
9:00 am - 3:30 pm, Monday – Friday
800-772-1213

2041 MLK Jr Avenue, SE, Suite 130
Washington, DC 20020
9:00 am - 3:30 pm, Monday – Friday
800-772-1213

Postal Plaza Shopping Center
1905-B 9th Street, NE
Washington, DC 20018
9:00 am - 3:30 pm, Monday – Friday
800-772-1213

Children and Youth Under Age 18

Eligibility Requirements

- SSI applications can be completed via online, telephone, or in-person
- SSA recommends reviewing the Child Disability Starter Kit (click [here](#)) in advance to help gather the needed information
- Having a qualifying physical or mental condition or combination of conditions that is/are expected to last 12 months or longer and results in marked and severe functional limitations. To see a list of qualifying conditions, click [here](#)
- Within 12 months after the 18th birthday, SSI eligibility is *re-determined* based on more restrictive eligibility criteria (one's impairment must result in the inability to do any substantial gainful activity). For information about the age 18 redetermination process, click [here](#)
- Income and resources of child and family

Documentation Requirements

- Note: SSA has a checklist to help gather needed documentation (click [here](#))
- Complete a Child Disability Report (click [here](#))
- Social Security numbers of all children and adults who live in the household
- Medical assistance number, if any
- Proof of US citizenship or lawful alien status, if not born in US
- Birth certificate or other proof of birth
- Proof of current income for child and family living in household

- Proof of resources for child and family living in household
- Medical release form
- Copies of any medical reports, IEPs/IFSPs, names, addresses, and phone numbers of doctors or other providers, dates of treatment, names of medicines taking
- Names, addresses, and phone numbers of any schools the child attended in the past 12 months
- Names, addresses, and phone numbers of any employers the child has had

Services & Supports

- Monthly cash assistance
- Automatic Medicaid eligibility
- Employment and education support, including:
 - Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS) – children ages 15 or older can save some income and resources to pay for education and other things needed to be able to work (SSA does not count this saved income and resources when figuring your child’s monthly payment). For more information about PASS, click [here](#)
 - Some children may need certain items due to their medical condition, such as a wheelchair or social services available through various programs (e.g., Health Services for Children with Special Needs (HSCSN), DHS). When determining a child’s SSI monthly payment, some or all the amount paid for support items will not be considered in the child’s earnings.
 - Children older than age 15 may receive assistance with rehabilitation and training

Adults Ages 18 and Older

Eligibility Requirements

- SSI applications can be completed via online, telephone, or in-person
- SSA recommends reviewing the Adult Disability Starter Kit (click [here](#)) in advance to help gather the needed information
- Having a physical or mental impairment expected to last 12 months or longer that prevents a person from completing a substantial gainful activity. To see a list of qualifying conditions, click [here](#)
- Income and resources of adults applying for SSI and their spouse (Note: family income and resources are not counted. Additionally, even if a child wasn’t eligible for SSI prior to their 18th birthday due to family or resources, they may become eligible for SSI at age 18)

Documentation Requirements

- Note: See information above about age 18 redetermination process
- Note: SSA has a checklist to help gather needed documentation (click [here](#))
- Complete an application for SSI (click [here](#))
- Social Security number
- Medical assistance number, if any
- Proof of US citizenship or lawful alien status if not born in US
- Birth certificate or other proof of birth
- Proof of current income
- Proof of resources
- Proof of living arrangements

- Work history (e.g., name of employers in the past 15 years, work description, and any changes to your work to accommodate medical conditions). For more information, click [here](#).
- Medical release form
- Copies of medical reports with applicant's name, address, physicians' phone numbers or other providers, dates of treatment, medications, etc.

Services & Supports

- Monthly cash assistance (Note: For adults 18 and over, SSI payments go directly to the applicant and not the parent, unless the parent/caregiver has been appointed by the Social Security Administration to be the representative payee)
- Automatic Medicaid eligibility
- Employment and education support, including:
 - Plan to Achieve Self-Support (PASS) – children ages 15 or older can save some income and resources to pay for education and other things needed to be able to work (SSA does not count this saved income and resources when figuring your child's monthly payment. For more information about PASS, click [here](#))
 - Some child may need certain items due to their medical condition, such as a wheelchair or social services available through varied social service agencies (e.g. HSCSN, DHS). When determining the child's SSI monthly payment, some or all the amount paid for support items will not be considered in the child's earnings.
 - Children older than age 15 may receive assistance with rehabilitation and training

Office of the State Superintendent of Education

1050 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002 | osse.dc.gov | 202-727-6436

Description

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is DC's state education agency responsible for overseeing all federal education programs and related grants. This includes the administration of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and ensuring compliance with requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. OSSE's Division of Specialized Education has jurisdiction over these programs. Note: The description below describes Part B of IDEA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Click [here](#) to view OSSE's brochure on special education information.

Part B of IDEA

Eligibility Requirements

- Ages 3- 22 with one or more of 14 disabilities listed under the IDEA or District law that impacts the child's educational performance and/or ability to learn and benefit from the general education curriculum and qualifies as needing special education and related services (see listing under documentation requirements)
- DC allows students to have an IEP through the end of the semester of their 22nd birthday, if extra time is needed to graduate
- A child with a disability who does not qualify for an IEP may be able to get a 504 plan

Documentation Requirements

- A child is identified as possibly needing special education through Child Find, which is a set of policies, procedures, and public awareness activities designed to locate, identify, and evaluate children who may require special education and related services. Referrals for a special education evaluation may be made by a variety of sources, including school staff, parents, medical or health professionals, childcare programs, District agencies, and community-based organizations.
- A comprehensive evaluation is conducted, with informed parent consent, to 1) determine if the child has a qualifying disability (including autism, deaf-blindness, deafness, developmental delay, emotional disturbance, hearing impairment, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, and visual impairment including blindness); to 2) gather information to determine the child's educational needs; and to 3) guide decision-making about appropriate educational programming for the child. Re-evaluations are to be conducted at least every 3 years.

Services & Supports

An Individualized Education Program (IEP)

An IEP is a written document that includes the child's current performance in school, annual goals, a listing of special education and related services, participation with nondisabled children, and participation in achievement testing. The student's IEP team, whose members include the youth and parent as well as regular/special education teacher(s), and others knowledgeable or with special expertise about the child.

IEP Transition Plan

The first IEP following the student's 14th birthday must also address transition service needs to help prepare for life after high school. The transition plan can relate to any of the following areas: postsecondary education, vocational education, integrated employment (including supported employment), continuing and adult education, adult services, independent living, and/or community participation/experiences.

Related Services

Related Services may be needed in order to benefit from special education. These services are related to audiology, speech-language pathology, counseling, psychological, medical, early identification and assessment of disabilities, occupational therapy, orientation and mobility services, parent counseling and training, physical therapy, recreation, rehabilitation counseling services, school health services, social work services in school, and transportation.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Eligibility Requirements (all must be met)

- Ages 3-21 with any physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities

Documentation Requirements

- A child is identified through Child Find, which is a set of policies, procedures, and public awareness activities designed to locate, identify, and evaluate children who may require special education and related services
- To be protected under Section 504, a child must be determined to have 1) a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; or 2) have a record of such an impairment; or 3) be regarded as having such an impairment.
- Informed parental consent is required for initial evaluations of a student prior to providing services under Section 504. The initial evaluation may include aptitude and achievement tests, teacher recommendations, physical condition, social or cultural background, and adaptive behavior.

Services & Supports

504 Service Plan

The 504 Service Plan specifies how access to academic, non-academic, and extracurricular activities will be provided in terms of services, accommodations, or education aids to ensure an equal opportunity to participate to the maximum extent appropriate in regular classrooms. A 504 Service Plan and/or placement decisions are made by a team knowledgeable about the student, evaluation data, and accommodations/placement options. This plan requires periodic reevaluations; reevaluation is required before a significant change in placement. Unlike an IEP, a 504 Service Plan does not have to be a written document.

Developmental Disabilities Administration

250 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20024 | dds.dc.gov | 202-730-1700

Description

The Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), part of DC's Department on Disability Services (DDS), is responsible for service coordination, Medicaid's home and community-based waivers, and monitoring health and wellness to reduce barriers for adults with intellectual disabilities, ages 18 and older. Click [here](#) to view DDS' brochure about their services.

Eligibility Requirements

- Intellectual disability (ID) diagnosed before age 18
- Intelligence quotient (IQ) score of 69 or below
- Significant limitations in 2 or more areas of adaptive functioning

Documentation Requirements

- Documentation verifying the diagnosis of ID prior to age 18 (e.g., school records/transcripts, diagnostic assessments, medical records, social history)
- Applicable psychological or psychiatric evaluations
- Annual medical evaluation
- Birth certificate or government ID (e.g., SNAP card)
- Social security card
- Proof of DC residency (e.g., current lease agreement, utility bill, statement from Social Security Administration listing address. Cell phone bills are not acceptable.)
- Proof of DC Medicaid or private health insurance
- Signed release of information form
- Intake application (Person-Centered Questionnaire) available online at dds.dc.gov or click [here](#)

Services & Supports

- Service planning and coordination as part of an individual support plan
- Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Program

Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Program

The Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Program provides individuals that need services in an institutional residential setting to receive a variety of services in home and community settings.

Eligibility Requirements

- Individuals with ID who would otherwise be in an institution or nursing home
- Note: DHCF submitting new home and community-based waiver for individual and family support that will extend eligibility to those living at home or with family or friends

Services & Supports

- Assistive technology
- Behavior supports
- Creative arts therapies
- Employment readiness
- Individualized day supports, in-home supports, parenting supports, family training
- Wellness and personal care
- Physical therapy, respite, skilled nursing
- Speech/hearing/language supports
- Supported employment
- Occupational therapy

Rehabilitation Services Administration

250 E Street, SW, Washington, DC 20024 | dds.dc.gov | 202-730-1700

Description

The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), part of DC's Department on Disability Services (DDS), is responsible for vocational rehabilitation services for individuals with disabilities to help find and keep employment, and for independent living services for those with significant disabilities. Services are available to DC residents ages 14 and older. Click [here](#) to view DDS' brochure about their services.

Eligibility Requirements

- Varies by program (see below)

Documentation Requirements

- Intake Application (VR Referral Form) available online at dds.dc.gov (Under "Services," Search for "How to Apply for RSA Services")
- Government issued Photo ID (e.g., driver's license or DC resident card)
- Proof of disability (medical evaluation or official record that diagnosis disability classification) and reports and letters (e.g., medical disability reports, psychological evaluations, Individualized Education Plan (IEP), SSI or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits awards letters)
- Additional assessments may be needed after meeting with intake staff to best determine a person's eligibility for services (e.g., medical, psychological, and neurological and functional capacity evaluations)

Services & Supports

- Employment Services as part of the individualized plan for employment (IPE)
- Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)

Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)

Eligibility Requirements

- Students with disabilities ages 14 to 22 with an IEP or 504 Service Plan
- Must complete an RSA VR Referral Form and/or Pre-Employment Transition Services
- Consent Form to initiate services. Students can enroll while still in school

Services & Supports

- Career Exploration
- Counseling on Post-Secondary Education & Training
- Workplace Readiness Training
- Work-Based Learning Experiences
- Self-Advocacy Instruction
- Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor provides Pre-ETS workshops to prepare the student for post-secondary education and training and/or employment after high school

Vocational Rehabilitative Services (VR Services)

Eligibility Requirements

- Individuals with disabilities ages 18 and older

Services & Supports

- Information and referral
- Assessment services
- Counseling and guidance
- Benefits counseling
- Physical restoration
- Vocational training or post-secondary education
- Job search assistance
- Job placement and coaching
- Supported employment
- Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor works with client to develop an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) which outlines supports and services needed to reach the employment goal

Independent Living Services

Eligibility Requirements (all must be met)

Must have all three conditions:

- Significant physical or mental disability (ex: individuals who are blind and/or visually impaired)
- Significant limitation that interferes with ability to function independently in family and/or community
- Need for Independent Living Services to develop or maintain ability to function independently

Services & Supports

- Information and referral
- Peer support
- Individual and systems advocacy
- Independent living skills training
- Assistive technology assessment and services
- Transition services (to help people at risk of entering institutions remain in the community; and to help people with significant disabilities transition from nursing homes and other institutions to home and community-based residences).
- These core services are provided through the DC Center for Independent Living and other private agencies in the community. Please visit dccil.org for more information.

Department of Behavioral Health

64 New York Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20002 | dbh.dc.gov | 202-673-2200 | 24-hour hotline: 888-793-4357

Description

The Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) is DC's public mental health authority and single state agency for substance use disorders. It provides a mix of prevention, intervention, and treatment services, including emergency psychiatric care and community-based outpatient and residential services for children, youth, young adults, and adults with serious behavioral health concerns. Services are offered through a network of school and community-based core service agencies and St. Elizabeth's inpatient psychiatric facility.

Children and Youth Under Age 18

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be under age 18
- Must meet criteria for a mental disorder with functional impairments that substantially interfere with family, school, employment, relationships, or community activities and impede progress toward recovery.

Documentation Requirements

- Diagnostic assessment
- Standardized functional assessment used for children (e.g., Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale or Pre- and Early Childhood Functional Assessment Scale)

Services & Supports

Children and Adolescent Mobile Psychiatric Services (ChAMPS)

This 24 hour/7 day a week service is available for children and youth ages 6-18, excluding youth committed to the Child and Family Services Agency. The mobile team provides on-site crisis assessment, coordinates acute care assessment and hospitalization when appropriate, and conducts post-crisis follow-up. ChAMPS Hotline: 202-481-1440

Drug or Alcohol Treatment Services for Teens and Young Adults

For individuals up to age 21 seeking help for drug or alcohol challenges, referrals are made to certified community-based providers.

High Fidelity Wraparound Project

Intensive, team-based care coordination is provided for youth at risk for or returning from an out-of-home residential treatment center placement or who have experienced multiple placements or psychiatric hospitalizations.

Juvenile Behavioral Diversion Court

For youth under age 18, DBH operates a voluntary program that links court-involved youth with appropriate community-based mental health services and supports. Eligible youth are given the option of participating in mental health services instead of facing prosecution. Participants are enrolled for 6-12 months and are required to attend court monitoring meetings.

Mental Health Rehabilitation Services

Through DBH's core service areas, the following services are offered: diagnostic assessment, medication/somatic treatment, counseling, community support, crisis/emergency, and community-based intervention.

Psychiatric Residential Treatment Services

DBH coordinates and monitors placement, continued stay, and post-discharge services following psychiatric residential treatment.

School Mental Health Programs (SMHPs)

Services include screening, behavioral and emotional assessments, school/class-based interventions, psycho-educational groups, consultation with parents and teachers, crisis intervention, and individual/group/family treatment. A variety of primary and secondary prevention programs aimed at violence, sexual abuse, suicide, anger management, parenting, and substance abuse may also be offered.

Supported Employment Services

For youth ages 16-25 with or at high risk of serious emotional disturbance, substance use disorders, or co-occurring disorders. Two core service agencies (Community Connections and MBI) assist in obtaining and sustaining career-focused employment. This program is called Now is the Time: Healthy Transitions/Our Time Transition Age Youth.

Adults Ages 18 and Older

Eligibility Requirements

- Must be 18 years and older
- Must meet criteria for a mental disorder with functional impairments that substantially interfere with family, school, employment, relationships, or community activities and impede progress toward recovery

Documentation Requirements

- Diagnostic assessment
- Standardized functional assessment used for adults (e.g., Level of Care Utilization System for Psychiatric and Addition Services)

Services & Supports

Assertive Community Treatment

For adults with serious and persistent mental illness, an interdisciplinary team provides medication administration and monitoring, crisis assessment and intervention, symptom assessment/management/individual support therapy, substance use treatment for those with co-occurring disorders, psychosocial rehabilitation and skill development, interpersonal skill training, and education and support to families/support systems.

Emergency Services

For adults experiencing a psychiatric or emotional crisis, crisis beds are available for up to 14 days as an alternative to inpatient hospitalization on the grounds of old DC General Hospital. Also, a mobile crisis team of clinicians will treat individuals unable or unwilling to go to the emergency care facility in their homes, community, or on the street. The mobile crisis service can be reached at 888-793-4357.

Mental Health Rehabilitation Services

Through DBH's core service areas, the following services are offered: diagnostic assessment, counseling, medication/somatic treatment, rehabilitation/day, intensive day treatment, crisis/emergency services, assertive community treatment, supported employment, health homes, and community support.

Pharmacy Services

For uninsured adults, pharmacy services can be found at 35 K Street, NW within the District. For assistance via telephone, please call 202-442-4954.

Same Day Urgent Care

Services can be found at 35 K St, NW within the District. Same day urgent care includes assessment, counseling, psychiatric evaluation and medication management. For assistance via telephone, please call 202-442-4202.

Supported Employment

Supported Employment services can be provided to individuals with serious mental illnesses for whom competitive employment has been interrupted or intermittent. Services include intake assessment, benefits counseling, treatment team coordination, job development, job coaching, and follow-along supports.

Urgent Care Clinic

For individuals referred by judges, court defendants, and homeless individuals for behavioral health assessment, medication, and connection to community behavioral health providers and supportive services. Located at the ground floor of the Moultrie Courthouse. Walk-ins are treated as well.

Child and Family Services Agency

200 I Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003 | cfsa.dc.gov | 202-442-6100 | 24-hour hotline: 202-671-SAFE

Description

The Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) is DC's public child welfare agency responsible for protecting child victims, such as those at risk of abuse and neglect and assisting their families. CFSA is responsible for 1) taking and investigating reports of known or suspected child abuse and neglect of youth up to age 18; 2) assisting families when CFSA identifies child victims of abuse or neglect, sending social workers to keep children safe while working with families, and connecting families to services to overcome difficulties that endanger their children; 3) temporarily removing children to safe settings when a home presents too much danger and promptly seeking agreement for removal from Family Court; and 4) re-establishing permanent homes with relatives and others through guardianship or joining a new family through adoption. CFSA also recruits, trains, and licenses foster parents and monitors and maintains contracts with group homes and other safe places for children and youth.

Eligibility Requirements

- Youth ages 18 and under, with a known risk of child abuse or neglect
- Youth and families with potential risk factors for child abuse or neglect and those who have an open case with CFSA and receive community-based prevention services (Family First Prevention-Eligible Youth): 1) youth following a child protective service investigation or closed CFSA case, 2) former foster care youth at risk of re-entry, 3) youth born to mothers with a positive toxicology screening, 4) youth served through CFSA's in-home service program, and 5) pregnant or parenting youth in/recently existed in foster care with eligibility for services ending at 21.

Documentation Requirements

- For youth with reported abuse and neglect, CFSA conducts an investigation usually within 24 hours of the report. Depending on the type of child abuse, police may be involved. With DC's Family Court, a decision will be made whether to remove the child from their home and placed into foster care.
- For youth with potential risk factors, a Family First Eligibility Screen is conducted to confirm membership in the above eligibility groups, risk level using a Structured Decision-Making tool, and imminent risk of entering foster care.

Supports & Services

Youth in Foster Care

Case Management

When youth are between ages 15-20, CFSA refers its case management oversight and other special services (listed below) to their Office of Youth Empowerment (OYE) to help prepare youth for life on their own. OYE partners with other public agencies, community organizations, and businesses to provide a robust array of resources and opportunities to build skills and gain experience. The OYE office is located at:

3350 9th Street, NE
Washington, DC 20017
Phone: 202-727-7500

Education Services

The OYE's Education Unit assists youth in foster care beginning in the 9th grade by providing resources to help with high school graduation and college preparation through graduation.

Assistance includes help with SAT/ACT tests, entrance exams, college applications, college enrollment and support, financial aid, scholarships, college tours, academic advising, tutorial services, disability supports, and Education and Training Vouchers (ETV).

Employment Services

For youth interested in pursuing a vocational trade, OYE's Employment Unit partners with public and private job-training programs and employers to offer youth opportunities for work experience, resume building, internships, vocational training, certification, and sustainable employment.

LifeSet

An evidence-based model that serves in care youth ages 17-21. The program is voluntary and pairs youth with a LifeSet Specialist to work on their independent living goals weekly. Youth generally stay in the program for 7-12 months, working on goals related to housing stability, employment, education, communication skills, healthy relationships, money management, transportation and more. The Specialists works on skill building steps in sessions to help youth sustain new skills that will allow for successful independent living.

Pregnant and Parenting Supports

OYE's Generations Unit provides support and guidance to pregnant and parenting youth to help complete their education, gain work experience, and master other life skills.

21 JumpStart Review

This mandatory meeting is for all 20.5-21-year-olds to identify barriers to a successful transition from care and assist with identifying necessary resources that will help prepare youth to age out of foster care.

Rapid Housing Assistance Program

A short-term rental subsidy is available to qualifying youth for up to 2 years, following youth's 21st birthday. Assistance is available to youth attending college full-time with at least a 2.0 GPA and youth attending college part-time and residing off campus. Youth must be employed at least part-time and have consistent income.

Youth Aftercare Services

The Youth Aftercare (YAC) program connects transitioned aged youth with a Resource Development Specialist to create an individualized plan to facilitate access to community services that support transition into adulthood. YAC services are available to youth that exit the foster care system at age 21 and up to age 23. YAC provides both individual and group opportunities that offer connections to housing, education, employment and other life domain areas.

Youth in Family First Prevention Group

Case Management and Prevention Plan

This plan is linked with existing in-home services case plans, foster care case plans, intervention plans, and sustainability plans in CFSA's child welfare information system, FACES. Click [here](#) for more information.

Selected Prevention Services

A broad and diverse set of evidence-based Family First Prevention Services will be considered to meet the unique needs of eligible youth and families. See Table 2 in the publication [here](#).

Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services

450 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001 | dyrs.dc.gov | 202-229-5362

Description

The Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) is responsible for the supervision, custody, and care of young people under the age of 18 charged with a delinquent act. This includes those who are detained in a DYRS facility while awaiting adjudication and those who are committed to DYRS by a DC Family Court judge following adjudication. Youth are placed in the least restrictive, most homelike environment consistent with public safety.

Eligibility Requirements

- A youth entering DC's juvenile justice system is under 18 and suspected of a crime. A hearing has found them involved in a delinquent act and determines their consequences or punishment. They will either be placed on probation with DC Court's Social Services or committed to DYRS. Youth may remain in the care of DYRS until the age of 21.

Documentation Requirements

- During the pre-commitment phase, DC Court's Social Services determines the most appropriate rehabilitation plan for youth
- If committed to DYRS, the agency goes through the following process: review of court recommendations, review of reports and assessments, mental health and substance abuse needs assessments for youth, and risk assessments

Supports & Services

Alcohol/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Treatment

DYRS provides the following services to youth who need to address mental health and/or alcohol and substance abuse issues: screening, initial assessment, service coordination, service initiation/delivery/engagement, and transition to long term community supports.

Case Management

DYRS conducts risk assessments using the Structured Decision-Making tool, looking at various factors, including offense severity, number and type of prior adjudications, number of out-of-home placements, school discipline/attendance, substance use issues, and peer relationships. Based on this assessment, a determination will be made about the level of restrictiveness in which youth will receive services. DYRS case manager monitors youth's activities and refers them to support services. Youth are required to attend school and/or have full-time employment.

Community-Based Placements

Several residential facility options are available, including group homes, therapeutic foster care/extended family homes, independent living programs, and community-based shelter homes.

Community-Based Prevention Services

DYRS has a Community Programming Initiative, administered by DC YouthLink, to connect DYRS youth to resources to help them reach their goals and engage in positive and structured activities to complement other services. DYRS' Credible Messenger Initiative connects community members who share similar lived experiences with the youth and families served by DYRS. They are neighborhood leaders, experienced youth advocates and can help to coach, guide, mentor, and advocate for youth.

Education Services

Assistance is provided for Individualized Education Program interpretations, tutoring General Education Development (GED) referrals and GED/SAT preparation, college enrollment, and referral for college support. For youth seeking to continue their education after high school or a GED, there is a college support scholarship to assist with tuition expenses. Also, financial awards are available to encourage successful academic achievement while enrolled in a vocational program or college. DYRS also works with youth on drop-out prevention and suspensions, expulsions, and other disciplinary issues.

Employment Services

Assistance is provided through DYRS' Office of Workforce Development to assist with career planning. This includes professional development preparation classes, industry specific training, group-based activities and one-on-one sessions, and help with preparing a resume and interviewing. DYRS works with public and private employer partners to ensure available employment opportunities.

Family Empowerment Services

DYRS's Family Engagement Specialist invites parents/guardians to a one-on-one orientation session to help them play an active role in their youth's rehabilitation. Youth Family Team Meetings are offered by the DYRS care manager, and a Family Resource Center is available at DYRS headquarters.

Secure Placements

DYRS administers programming at New Beginnings Youth Development Center, a secure facility in Laurel, MD for youth who have been committed to DYRS and require more structure and supervision than community placements can provide. DYRS also contracts with Residential Treatment Center (RTCs) and Psychiatric Rehabilitation Treatment Facilities (PRTFs) to provide treatment for youth's behavioral and psychiatric issues. These secure placements are generally only utilized when youth have not complied with the conditions of community-based placements and when less restrictive placement options have been exhausted.

Department of Aging and Community Living

500 K Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002 | dacl.dc.gov | 202-724-5626

Description

The Department of Aging and Community Living (DACL) is DC's Agency on Aging, providing programs & services for District residents age 60+, and their caregivers. Some DAACL programs are also available to adults 18 years and older with disabilities. DAACL offers neighborhood-based resource centers via 8 neighborhood Wards listed on the DAACL website (click [here](#)). To link individuals with resources, referrals and other connections, DAACL partners with government and community organizations to provide the following: transportation, nutrition supports, assistance applying for benefits, LGBTQ supports and services, caregiver programs, and linkages to adult protective services.

Eligibility Requirements

- DC residency
- Ages 18 and older with a disability
- Eligibility for services vary (see below)

Documentation Requirements

- Proof of residence in the District of Columbia
- Documentation of age and/or disability
- Applications required for certain programs (see below)

Services & Supports

Transportation

DAACL connects adults with disabilities with a variety of transportation services designed to meet their mobility needs and get them where they need to be. For example, transportation to a medical appointment or a wellness event, reduced fares on public transit, or curb-to-curb transportation accommodating a wheelchair. The Seabury Connector provides transportation for group activities, senior wellness centers, and special events. For more information, please visit seaburyresources.org. Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority offers reduced fares and paratransit services for seniors and people with disabilities. More information can be found at wmata.com. Transport DC provides an alternative to paratransit transportation service for eligible MetroAccess customers who are residents of Washington, DC. Their [WMATA Application](#) is available online or enrollment can be completed via telephone at 202-962-2700 & select option #5. Transport DC also provides \$5 taxicab rides to and from any location in DC, without location restrictions, from the 1st of the month through the 15th. For the remainder of the month, these cab rides are restricted to employment and medical treatment locations only. For more information, please visit dcyellowcab.com.

Community Transition Program

DAACL provides a Community Transition Program (CTP) to support eligible individuals transitioning from a long-term care facility back into the community. DAACL can assist with guidance and consultation on long-term care options and planning, or referrals to other services. Call 202-724-5626 for additional information.

Community Social Work

DAACL provides a Community Social Work Program to connect individuals under the age of 60, who lack support and need help coordinating community services. Call 202-724-5626 for additional information.

Additional Transition Resources

Resource Centers

- DC Office of Disability Rights ([click here](#))
- Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) ([click here](#))
- Advocates for Justice and Education ([click here](#))
- Children’s Law Center ([click here](#))

Tools

- Charting the Life Course tools to support families in transition planning ([click here](#))
- Got Transition’s Health Care Transition Family Toolkit ([click here](#))
- Person-Centered Thinking Tools from DDS ([click here](#))

Supported Decision-Making Resources

- National Resource Center for Supported Decision-Making ([click here](#))
- DC Supported Decision-Making Agreement: Information and Instructions ([click here](#))
- Sample Supported Decision-Making Model Agreements ([click here](#))

About Me

This *About Me* youth communication tool is designed to help you:

- Share what you want professionals to know about you and what is important to you
- Inform others involved in your transition care to understand who you are, your goals, and what you need

Directions:

- To complete the “About Me” box below, fill in the blanks on your own, or with your family or one of the professional partners you are working with
- Once completed, you can share your “About Me” facts when you interact with different agencies

About Me

What do I want my agency partners to know about me?

1. My best strength or ability is _____.
2. What really matters to me right now is _____.
3. What I need help with right now is _____.
4. What I would like you to know or remember about me is _____.
5. Interacting with me goes better if you do or say _____.
6. People helping me with my transition to adulthood include: _____.

Caregivers & Professionals can use the following questions to assist young adults completing the *About Me* facts above

Families Share with/for their Young Adult	Professional Partners Ask of Youth/Families
1. My child’s best strength or ability is:	1. What do you see as your (or your child’s) best strength or ability (what are you most proud of)?
2. What really matters to my child right now is:	2. What really matters to you (your child) right now?
3. My child needs help with the following right now:	3. Can you name 1-3 current needs that you have?
4. My child (or I) would like you to know or remember:	4. Is there anything that you (your child) would like us to know/remember?
5. What helps visits with my child go better?	5. What would help our visits with you (your child) go better?
6. People helping my child with transition include the following relationships:	6. What people or relationships do you have to help you with transition?