

TRANSITION TO ADULT LIFE

FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

PLEASE NOTE: The resources and organizations listed are not to be considered formal recommendations of the Hillside Public Schools nor are they intended to service all populations. Please contact the listed providers for additional information regarding programs, security, and answers to any other questions.

NJ STATE (AND UNION COUNTY) RESOURCES

FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Generally speaking, there are 3 NJ State Agencies that may assist our students.

They are:

1. **Division of Children and Families (DCF)**
2. **Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)**
3. **Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS)**

*****FOR ALL STUDENTS UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE:***

DIVISION OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (DCF)/PERFORM CARE:

(877) 652-7624, <http://www.nj.gov/dcf/families/csc/>

To complete DCF/CSOC application: www.performcarenj.org/families/forms.aspx

or you may call the number above to request paper application via mail; you can then return it to:

Perform Care New Jersey, Attention: DD Eligibility Unit, 300 Horizon Drive, Suite 306,
Robbinsville, New Jersey 08691-1919.

****Please Note:** If applying for the first time after age 18, you must first apply to the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), and if found eligible, they will forward the application to DCF.

DCF Services Offered to Eligible Children with Developmental Disabilities:

*Respite Services: Provides family caregivers with a short period of rest/relief by arranging alternate care-giving; it is usually provided by an agency that contracts with the Children's System of Care (CSOC) and may include after-school activities, weekend recreational activities, a short-term placement in a licensed setting, or in-home/self-directed respite.

*Assistive Technology Devices (ATD): These are used to increase, maintain, or improve an individual's functional capabilities and may include materials that make the environment more accessible, allowing the individual to compete in the workplace and enhance independence. Families must seek three competitive bids, and the device must be prescribed by a physician or therapist; individual must have received a denial from their insurance carrier, including Medicaid, and may receive no more than \$11,000 for ATD over a 3-year period.

*Home and Vehicle Modifications: These are removable, structural modifications (such as ramps, grab-bars, etc...), and individuals may receive no more than \$11,000 for home/vehicle modifications over a 3-year period.

*****FOR STUDENTS OVER 18 YEARS OF AGE***

(Services are only for adults who have a developmental disability):

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (DDD):

110 East 5th Street, Plainfield, NJ 07060, (908) 226-7800,

www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddd/home/

DDD Quick Guide for Families:

<https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/documents/quick-guide-for-families-english.pdf>

This document has now been updated and provides condensed, easy-to-understand information from the policy manuals for both of the Division's Medicaid waiver programs, the Supports Program and Community Care Program. As before, printed copies can be requested through the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities (NJCDD), using their Quick Guide Request form here:

<https://njcdd.us16.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=b9adb86fff1cb5fd6f5fa6e22&id=c10a315440>

An Overview of the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD):

[Overview of DDD -PPPresentation-.pptx](#)

To complete the DDD Application for Eligibility for DDD-funded services:

Please visit the main DDD application page [here](#).

- **SHORT Application:** This revised application can be utilized by individuals who are 18 or older and were previously determined eligible for developmental disability services through the New Jersey Children's System of Care (CSOC). The Short Application is an effort to simplify and streamline the transition from CSOC to DDD.
- **FULL Application:** The Full DDD Application is for applicants age 18 or older who HAVE NOT been previously determined eligible for developmental disability services through DDD.

****Please note:** You can apply for DDD eligibility at the age of 18, but you will not receive any services until you are 21, receiving Medicaid, and after you have exhausted your educational entitlement.

DDD services offered to eligible adults may include: Assistive technology, behavior supports, career planning, cognitive rehabilitation, community-based supports, community inclusion services, day habilitation, environmental modifications, fiscal management services (Fiscal Intermediary), goods and services, interpreter services, natural supports training, occupational therapy, Personal Emergency Response System (PERS), physical therapy, prevocational training, respite, speech language & hearing therapy, support coordination, supported employment - individual and/or small group, supports brokerage, transportation, and vehicle modifications.

The Arc of NJ Family Institute, A Step by Step Process to DDD Eligibility:

<https://www.thearcfamilyinstitute.org/resources/ddd-eligibility-go-bag.html>

NJ Comprehensive Assessment Tool (NJ CAT): During the intake process, the student's parent/guardian must complete the NJ Comprehensive Assessment Tool (NJ CAT); this survey is used to determine needed postsecondary supports as well as the amount of money that will be allotted for your individualized budget.

Please contact DDD Intake, at (908) 226-7802, for more information about the NJ CAT.

NJ CAT Web Resource page:

www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/resources/njcat.html.

NJ CAT Questions:

https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/documents/njcat_sample_assessment.pdf

Watch an archived NJ CAT webinar: www.youtube.com/watch?v=nluCSO5kFWk.

DDD Supports Coordinator Selection Form: After DDD Eligibility has been established when the student is age 21, you must complete this form which will allow you to choose (or you will be auto assigned) a Support Coordinator (SC) to help you develop an Individualized Service Plan (ISP) for supports to be provided by DDD after

graduation. For more information,

http://nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/services/support_coordination.html.

Archived Webinar: "DDD's System Reform: Understanding what it Means for Someone Entering DDD Services:" www.youtube.com/watch?v=z5SL7-puP58.

To subscribe to the Division's E-news Bulletin: Send an email to

DDD.Communications@dhs.state.nj.us, with Division Update Subscribe in the subject line.

DDD-Supports Program Policy Manual (updated 3/2019):

<https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/documents/supports-program-policy-manual.pdf>

(Please see page 194-195 for the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DDD and DVRS)

Support Coordination Agencies (updated 2/20/2020):

<https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/documents/support-coordination-agencies-list.pdf>

The DDD Provider Search: <https://irecord.dhs.state.nj.us/providersearch>.

This website allows users to search for providers by name or services. You may filter your search results further by services, provider location, location type, etc., or use a combination of searches and filters to browse provider options.

Things to Be Aware When Transitioning from High School to Adult Life/Things to Consider When Choosing an Adult Service Provider: [Things to Be Aware When Transitioning From High School to Adult Life.docx](#)

Understanding Self-Directed Services in NJ and the Role of the Supports Broker:

"...new resource developed by The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities, in collaboration with the NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities, the NJ Collaborative for Citizen Directed Supports, and people with disabilities and families.

<https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/documents/understanding-self-directed-services-and-role-of-supports-broker.pdf>

PLEASE NOTE: IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Graduates Aging out of School System (for adults planning to receive services from DDD):

<https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddd/documents/graduates-timeline.pdf>

****FOR STUDENTS WITHIN TWO YEARS OF GRADUATION**

*(Services are for adults who may be seeking
some additional vocational supports):*

DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES (DVRs):

New Jersey Department of Labor, 921 Elizabeth Avenue, 3rd Floor, Elizabeth, NJ
07201,

(908) 965-3940

http://careerconnections.nj.gov/careerconnections/plan/foryou/disable/vocational_rehabilitation_services.shtml

DVRs REFERRAL PACKET: [\DVRs Forms.pdf](#)

If you are interested in applying for eligibility from DVRS prior to graduation and with the support of your CST Case Manager, please visit the link above for more information. The "DVRS Referral Form," along with a signed and notarized "Authorization to Release Information," may be submitted to the student's Child Study Team Case Manager; upon receipt, they will then forward the student's Individualized Educational Plan (IEP), Psychological, and Educational Reports, to DVRS on your behalf.

DVRS works to assist students with disabilities who may require services in order to prepare for, get, and keep a job. The ultimate goal is to create a smooth transition from school to work, so that upon graduation, a student is prepared to begin work and/or postsecondary training that lead to competitive employment. Updated testing (Psychological and Educational evaluations) is required within two years of graduation to determine the student's current interests and abilities. Once found eligible, DVRS may provide counseling/guidance to current high school students, as well as help the student/family develop goals and objectives for an Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE).

DVRS Services Offered to Eligible Adults: Vocational counseling & guidance, placement services, job seeking skills, supported employment, time limited placement and coaching, job accommodations, skills training, college training, physical/emotional restoration, mobility equipment, driver training, and vehicle/home modifications.

****Please Note:** Expenses for medical services, training, supplies, tools, and/or equipment are based on the individual's income/ability to pay. In some cases, DVRS may be able to assist the student in funding their college/vocational school education, paying for books, and/or providing a monthly reduced-fare bus pass.

For more information about these three agencies (DCF, DDD, and DVRS),

as well as some additional NJ state/local transition-related resources, please
visit:

[\NJ State-Union County Transition Resources 2017.docx](#)

ADDITIONAL TRANSITION-RELATED INFORMATION

New Brochure of Guardianship and Alternatives

NJ Department of Education

[New Brochure on Guardianship and Alternatives -1-.pdf](#)

Long Term Planning and Legal Matters for People with Disabilities, NJ:

[/Legal Matters 2017-18.docx](#)

Pro Se Legal Guardianship Papers within the State of NJ:

****Papers to obtain guardianship of the person and estate:**

http://www.njcourts.gov/forms/10558_guardianship_person_and_estate.pdf

****Papers to obtain guardianship of (only) the person:**

http://www.njcourts.gov/forms/12009_guardianship_person.pdf

Mental Health Association in Union County: <https://www.mhanj.org/mhanj-in-union-county/>

NAMI Union County Resource Guide: <https://www.naminj.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/NAMI-Union-County-RESOURCE-GUIDE-TEXT-6th-Edition-4-5-2017.pdf>

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

PACER's National Parent Center on Transition and Employment:

Paving the Way: Parent Tips for Supporting Success in High School and Beyond

https://www.pacer.org/transition/learning-center/planning/supporting-your-teen.asp?utm_source=February+2019+NCC+Newsletter&utm_campaign=February+2019+NCC+newsletter&utm_medium=email

The Job Connection: <https://www.ucc.edu/continuing-and-professional-education-and-workforce-development/center-for-economic-and-workforce-development/job-connections-newsletter/>

A Transition Guide to Postsecondary Education/Employment For Students and Youth with Disabilities, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, US Department of Education,

<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/transition/products/postsecondary-transition-guide-may-2017.pdf>

COLLEGE RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Colleges and Universities may offer supportive and individualized services to students with disabilities. For more information, including documentation guidelines, please contact each school of interest. Below is a list of schools within the State of NJ and their link to these services; please note, this is not a complete listing of schools within the State.

College Programs for Students with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and Scholarship Opportunities

<https://www.thearcfamilyinstitute.org/spceial-campiangs/college-programs/college-programs.html>

Cabrini University

www.cabrini.edu/contentassets/2e6980bf138a4c9281c0af8382151419/drc-flier-2018.pdf

County College of Morris

<https://www.ccm.edu/accessibility-services/>

Drew University

<https://www.drew.edu/center-academic-excellence/about-us/accessibility-resources/>

Essex County College

<http://www.essex.edu/differently-abled-support-services/>

Fairleigh Dickinson University

<https://view2.fdu.edu/florham-campus/disability-support-services/>

Kean University

<https://www.kean.edu/offices/disability-services>

Middlesex County College

<https://www.middlesexcc.edu/disability-services/>

Project Connections, Middlesex County College, Edison, NJ:

<https://www.middlesexcc.edu/disability-services/project-connections-application/>

Monmouth University

<https://www.monmouth.edu/disability-services/>

Montclair University

<https://www.montclair.edu/disability-resource-center/>

New Jersey City University

<https://www.njcu.edu/oss>

Rutgers University

<https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Seton Hall

<https://www.shu.edu/disability-support-services/>

The College of NJ

<https://differingabilities.tcnj.edu/>

Union County College

www.ucc.edu/administration/the-office-for-equal-opportunity/disability-services/

William Paterson University

<https://www.wpunj.edu/accessibilityresourcecenter/>

20 Great Colleges for students with Learning Disabilities:

<https://www.petersons.com/blog/20-great-colleges-for-students-with-learning-disabilities/>