

Family Tip Sheet:

Is Your Child Eligible for Developmental Disabilities Services?

Your child may be eligible to receive case management and/or financial assistance through one of Oregon's Community Developmental Disabilities Programs (CDDP).

What is a developmental disability?

A developmental disability is a mental or physical condition, or a *combination* of mental and physical conditions, that result in significant impairments to daily functioning. The disability must:

- have its origin in the brain
- be established prior to the age of 22, or in the case of intellectual disability, the condition must be determined before 18 years of age
- be expected to last indefinitely
- result in significant impairments in at least two areas of daily functioning: self-care, communication, cognitive, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living and economic self-sufficiency
- the impairments must not be primarily related to: mental illness, substance abuse, an emotional disorder, Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), a learning disability or sensory impairment (such as hearing or vision loss)

The most common developmental disabilities include intellectual disability (IQ less than 70), Down syndrome, autism, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and fetal alcohol effect or fetal alcohol syndrome.

How is eligibility determined?

An eligibility worker in your local CDDP will assist you through the process and help you obtain the required documents. Once the eligibility worker has collected all the necessary information, he or she will review it to see if you qualify. *Your family does not need to be low-income to be eligible.*

How long does it take to determine if my child is eligible?

In general, the CDDP will make an eligibility determination within 90 days; however, the process can take longer if your child needs an evaluation from a qualified professional.

Is there an appeal process if my child is found to be ineligible?

Yes, if you are dissatisfied with eligibility determination, you may request a hearing.

How do I apply for DD services?

Simply call the Community Developmental Disabilities Program in your county and say that you would like to apply for case management services for your child. A list of offices can be found here:

<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/county-programs.aspx>

For more information: <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/Pages/index.aspx>

