

Transition Timeline

March 23, 2021



DETERMINING OPWDD ELIGIBILITY

The Office of People with Developmental Disabilities plays an essential role in the lives of people with disabilities. OPWDD will access the Home and Community Based Services Waiver which can provide services for your child.

****YOU SHOULD DO THIS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE****

If you apply before your child is 8 years of age you will need to reapply when they turn 8.

Steps to Determine Eligibility

- Complete a *Transmittal Form* (you can request this form from the building psychologist or the Special Ed office), send it to OPWDD with student records. (Psychological, adaptive functioning, social history, medical, *autism scale)
- Attend an OPWDD Front Door training.
- OPWDD will determine eligibility and contact the parents directly.

Available OPWDD Services

Available GRANT Services

- Home Respite
- Weekend Respite
- Recreation Programs
- Family Reimbursement of \$1,000 per fiscal year

Available Medicaid services

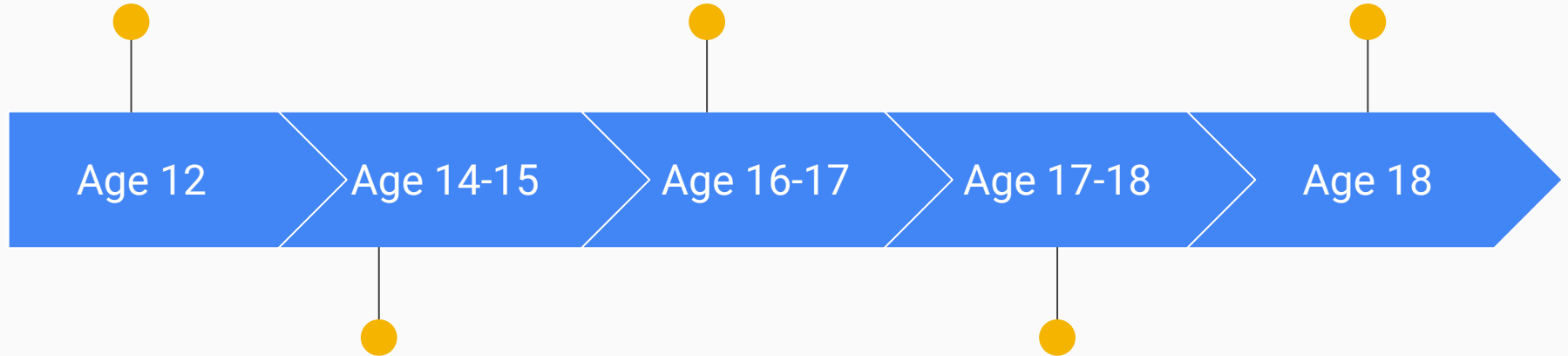
- [Community Habilitation](#)
- Camp
- [Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program \(CDPAP\)](#)

Begin to investigate
post-school opportunities

Open an SNT or Able account

Obtain personal ID card

Administer initial
vocational assessment



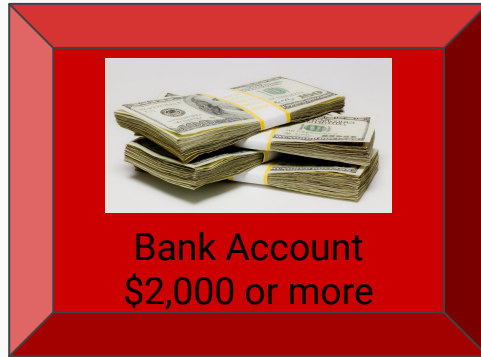
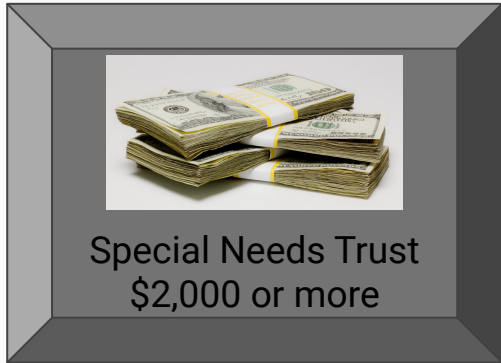
Transition services
incorporated into IEP age 15

What is a Special Needs Trust?

If a person who is disabled inherits more than \$2,000 it will interrupt his or her government benefits.

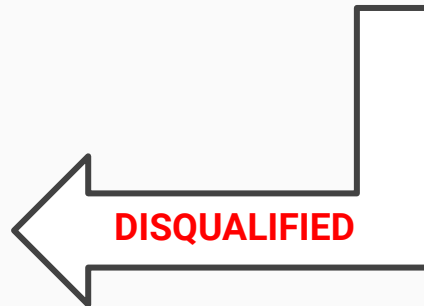
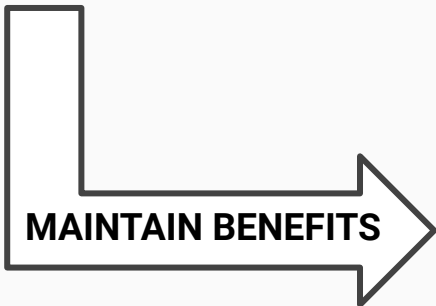
Many parents and grandparents who wish to leave money for the benefit of a disabled child do so using a Special Needs Trust. Government benefits will not be terminated, and the trustee can use the trust funds for supplemental needs, things like vacations, social events, and sporting goods. If Medicaid won't cover certain medical care or treatments, the trust can step in and pay for those.

IMPORTANCE OF A SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST



SOURCES OF INCOME

- GIFTS
- INHERITANCE
 - CASH
 - HOME
- INSURANCE POLICY
- SETTLEMENT MONEY



ABLE ACCOUNTS

Similar to a 529, Able accounts are offered through state-sponsored programs, consumers can choose a plan sponsored by any state.

Able accounts are intended to offer a simpler, less expensive option than a special needs trust. As little as \$15.00 to start.

Yearly contributions to Able accounts are capped at \$15,000 and can grow to \$100,000 without putting federal benefits at risk. (At 100k SSI stops but medicaid continues)

The funds can be invested, and the money may be withdrawn tax-free for a range of eligible expenses.

Able accounts are owned by the disabled individual, who has direct access to the funds (unless a parent or legal guardian makes decisions for the person).


Remaining funds may be subject to Medicaid payback.

ABLE ACCOUNTS CONTINUED

The NY Achieving a Better Life Experience Program

Able account funds can be used for:

- **Education/Health/Housing/Transportation**
- **Employment training and support**
- **Assistive technology and personal support services**
- **Financial management and legal fees**
- **Funeral and burial expenses**
- **Account owners who work can contribute up to an additional \$12,060 or their annual income whichever is less**
- **529 College Savings Program account owners are eligible to roll over 529 Plan assets to an ABLE account owned by a beneficiary or a member of that beneficiary's family**

For more information visit site below or  **NYS ABLE ACCOUNTS**

Visit: <https://www.mynyable.org/home.html>

OBTAIN AN OFFICIAL STATE ID CARD

Many residents rely on a New York State Photo Driver License or Non-Driver Photo Identification Card as secure identification for check cashing or credit purchases. A New York State photo document may provide increased identification security for you, plus law enforcement and driver safety advantages for everyone.

The DMV Non-Driver ID Card has the same personal identification information, photo, signature and special safeguards against alterations as a photo driver license. Non-driver ID cards are available to any person, regardless of age, who can provide acceptable proof of name and age. Parental consent is required for applicants under 16 years old. If you are 62 years old or older or are receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI), you are eligible for a 10-year ID card at a reduced fee of \$6.50.

NYS License/ID Card



Driver License - Over 21



Commercial Driver License
Over 21



Enhanced Driver License
Over 21



Driver License - Under 21



Learner Permit - Under 21



Non-Driver ID - Under 21

Begin to investigate
post-school opportunities

Administer initial
vocational assessment

Open an SNT or Able account

Obtain personal ID card



Transition services
incorporated into IEP age 15

Seek legal guardianship

Investigate SSDI/SSI/Medicaid programs

WHAT IS GUARDIANSHIP?

In New York State, parents of persons with intellectual and other developmental disabilities are considered the natural guardians of their children until their eighteenth (18) birthday. After a person reaches 18 years of age, he or she is assumed to be a legally competent adult and able to manage his or her own affairs.

17-A Guardianship is a planning alternative that enables parents and relatives to ensure that they, or others that they designate, may act as advocates with legal authority. It is important that this individual maximizes all necessary and available supports and resources for the benefit of their family member who may require some level of assistance in managing their personal and/or financial affairs. Legal guardianship cannot be granted from, or specified in, a will. It is obtained through surrogate court.

GUARDIANSHIP CONTINUED

Visit: <http://nycourts.gov/courthelp//diy/guardianship17A.shtml>

Welcome to LawHelp Interactive

You can use this site to create the documents you selected. This is a free service.

Note: Your interview session will expire after 2 hours (120 minutes) of inactivity.
Inactivity means you have not clicked or typed somewhere within the interview for 2 hours.
Please **SIGN UP TO SAVE** your answers periodically, if possible. You will need to register with the site to do this.

Get Started



- NYS Surrogates Guardianship 17A diy from New York
- Use this program to fill out the papers you need to ask the Surrogates Court to appoint a guardian of the person and/or a guardian of the property of a person who is intellectually disabled or developmentally disabled.

Proceed

You can also...

- [Sign Up to Save Your Work](#)
- [Already Signed Up? Log In](#)

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The logo for the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) HOTdocs program, featuring a stylized 'L' and 'S' followed by the text 'LSC HOTdocs'.

DETERMINE OPWDD ELIGIBILITY

The Office of People with Developmental Disabilities plays an important role in the lives of people with disabilities. OPWDD will access the Home and Community Based Services Waiver once SSI/Medicaid is approved. ****YOU SHOULD DO THIS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE****

Steps to Determine Eligibility

- Complete a *Transmittal Form* for the determination of a developmental disability and send it to OPWDD with student records. (Psychological, adaptive functioning, social history, medical, *autism scale)
- Attend an OPWDD Front Door training.
- OPWDD will determine eligibility and contact the parents directly.

APPLY FOR SSI/SSD/MEDICAID PROGRAMS

- **Supplemental Security Income makes monthly payments to people with low income and limited resources who are 65 or older, or blind or disabled. Your child younger than age 18 can qualify if he or she meets Social Security's definition of disability for children, and if his or her income and resources fall within the eligibility limits.**
- **The amount of the SSI payment is different from one state to another because some states add to the SSI payment. Your local Social Security office can tell you more about your state's total SSI payment. Once determined eligible for SSI/SSD you will also qualify for Medicaid. SSI will be money your child will be able to use to help with their living expenses. Medicaid will fund the services your child may require after graduation.**

Visit: <https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ssa-16.html>

Why Is OPWDD/Medicaid/SSI Important?

OPWDD, Medicaid, and SSI may play a large role in your child's adult life.

These agencies will provide access and funds for services such as...

- Medical Needs: Dr. appointments and provide health insurance
- Monthly income
- Food stamps
- Funding source for adult program
 - Day Habilitation or Self Directed Services
- Funding for Living Options

Begin to investigate
post-school opportunities

Apply for SSI/Medicaid
programs

Open an SNT or Able account

Involve ACCES-VR as
appropriate

Obtain personal ID card



****CONSIDER THE NEED FOR RESIDENTIAL HOUSING****

Transition services
incorporated into IEP age 15

Seek legal guardianship

Investigate opening a special
needs trust or Able account

Investigate SSD/SSI/Medicaid programs

PARENT RESOURCES

- NYS PARENT TO PARENT
- EVERYTHING SPECIAL NEEDS
- OPWDD
- ACCESS-VR
- ESM SEPTO

Parent Resources Continued

- NYS Able Accounts
 - <https://www.mynyable.org/>
- SSI/Medicaid
 - <https://www.ssa.gov/applyfordisability/>
- OPWDD- Long Island is Region 5 (DDRO)
 - <https://opwdd.ny.gov/>
- NYS DMV ID Card
 - <https://dmv.ny.gov/id-card/bget-non-driver-id-card-ndid>

District Contacts

- Director of Special Education Ben Franquiz: 631-801-3040
- District Office Special Education HS Clerical Anne Hernon: 631-801-3040
- HS Guidance Office: 631-801-3272