

## How is eligibility determined?

Revised 09/2009

## Developmental Disabilities Services in Polk County

1. An individual, a family member or another agency may refer a person for services. To make a referral, call Polk County Developmental Disabilities Program at 503-831-5969 and ask for the Eligibility Specialist.
2. The Eligibility Specialist will contact the individual or the individual's representative and set up an Intake appointment to gather documentation and get your consent to request information. The Eligibility Specialist will request information and then will determine eligibility based on the information.
3. Once sufficient documentation is available, the individual or individual's representative will receive a Notice of Eligibility. If the individual is eligible, he or she will be notified who the assigned Services Coordinator will be. If the individual is not eligible, the reason and the method for appealing this determination will be explained in the letter.

Please call our offices at

**503.831.5969**

to ask for the Eligibility Specialist

Polk County Human Services  
Developmental Disabilities  
182 SW Academy St. Suite 304  
Dallas, OR 97338  
Phone (503) 831-5969  
Fax (503) 623.1874

## Eligibility



**Polk County  
Human Services**

## ELIGIBILITY

Polk County Developmental Disabilities Program provides services coordination to individuals with developmental disabilities. Services provided to individuals can include assistance in accessing programs and services; referral to community agencies and/or residential and vocational services; advocacy with Early Intervention, the school system or community based services; family and self-directed supports; and help with problem solving.

## Who is eligible?

### Individuals with Mental Retardation

(under Oregon Revised Statute)

- ❖ Set by the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday
- ❖ For individuals who have a consistent pattern of IQ results of 65 and under, no adaptive assessment may be needed if current information continues to support eligibility.
- ❖ IQ patterns of 66-75:
  - Require an adaptive assessment indicating significant impairments in adaptive behavior to verify mental retardation.
  - This adaptive impairment **cannot** be primarily attributed to: mental/emotional disorders, sensory impairments, substance abuse, personality disorder, learning disability, or attention deficit /hyperactivity disorder.

### Individuals w/Other Developmental Disabilities (under federal definition)

- ❖ Set by the 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday
- ❖ IQ scores are not relevant
- ❖ **Must have** either a medical or clinical diagnosis of a developmental disability **AND**
- ❖ Significant impairment in adaptive behavior related to the diagnosis.
- ❖ The disability must have originated in and directly affect the brain; and the individual must have support needs similar to those required by individuals with mental retardation.
- ❖ Documentation of significant impairment in adaptive behavior of a composite score of at least two standard deviations below the norm or two or more areas of functioning that are at least two standard deviations below the norm including but not limited to communication, mobility, self-care, socialization, self-direction, functional academics, or self-sufficiency.
- ❖ The adaptive impairments must be primarily related to the developmental disability and cannot be primarily attributed to mental or emotional disorders, sensory impairments, substance abuse, personality disorder, learning disability or ADHD.
- ❖ The condition or impairment must be expected to last indefinitely.

### Most frequent developmental disabilities

- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| ▪ Cerebral Palsy     | ▪ Klinefelter   |
| ▪ Tourettes          | ▪ Epilepsy      |
| ▪ Fragile X Syndrome | ▪ Prader Willie |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Fetal Neurological Disorders (alcohol, lead, drugs, disease)</li><li>▪ Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)</li><li>▪ Pervasive developmental disorders including autism and Asperger's (clinically diagnosed)</li></ul> |
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### Children (between 0 and 22 years old)

- ❖ Eligibility is always provisional – Eligibility may change when new information is obtained.
- ❖ Eligibility documentation for individuals under 22 years of age must be based on information no more than three years old.
- ❖ Eligibility for school age children must be redetermined no later than age 7 and by age 18 for mental retardation and by age 22 for developmental disabilities
- ❖ **Children 5 years and younger:** Standardized testing that demonstrates significant adaptive impairment at least two standard deviations below the norm in two or more of the following areas: self care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self direction **OR** a medical statement by a licensed medical practitioner of a neurological condition or impairment that originates in and directly affects the brain and causes or is likely to cause significant impairments in at least two of the above areas of functioning.