



## Connecting School and Adult Life

Guidance for youth with developmental disabilities, families and the professionals who support them

Prior to age 21, children may be entitled to/ eligible for:

- Job Training
- Medicaid Waiver Services
- Low Intensity Support Services
- Special Education Services

**See back for more resources and services**

**No later than the fall of the graduating year, the student will need:**

- Birth certificate
- State ID card
- Social Security Card
- Medicaid//Health Insurance Card

Students, with the support from family, should educate themselves on financial eligibility requirements and consider their goals toward the life they seek to live.

A student may not have more than \$2,000 in assets and resources in his/her name when applying for government benefits such as SSI and Medical Assistance.

Families should begin financial planning when the student turns 13 years old.

Social Security and Medical Assistance can look back at a student's financial records for 5 years

Please note that parents of a child of any age who has been diagnosed with a developmental disability can apply on behalf of their child to the Developmental Disabilities Administration for assessment and services.



Marc Elrich, County Executive  
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Commission on People with Disabilities

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240-777-1246 (V), MD Relay 711

FIND US ONLINE

[montgomerycountymd.gov/cpwd](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/cpwd)

Disability Network Directory

[montgomerycountymd.gov/dnd](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/dnd)

## Charting the LifeCourse™

Transitioning youth resource booklet to help families think through transition and create a vision for the future.  
[lifecoursetools.com/learning-materials](http://lifecoursetools.com/learning-materials)

## Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)

Apply by age 14. Keep a copy of the application for your files and send the original to DDA. The date the application is received could be critical in determining whether your child is eligible for services in the future.

301-362-5100 1-888-207-2479 [dda.health.maryland.gov](http://dda.health.maryland.gov)

## Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)

DORS can assist individuals in reaching vocational goals. Ask about pre-employment transition services.

Germantown: 301-601-1500 Wheaton: 301-949-3750 [dors.maryland.gov](http://dors.maryland.gov)

## Housing Vouchers

Apply for a housing voucher when the young adult turns 18 years old. The waiting list is long, so apply early.

Main: 240-627-4400 UpCounty: 240-627-9744 [hocmc.org](http://hocmc.org)

## Independence Now

Contact Independence Now about benefits and counseling programs for all ages and all types of disabilities.

301-277-2839 [innow.org](http://innow.org)

## Legal and Financial Planning

Contact the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council for a copy of PLANNING NOW.

410-767-3670 1-800-305-6441 [md-council.org](http://md-council.org)

## Low Intensity Support Services (LISS)

Money from DDA can be used for camp tuition, home modifications, and other expenses related to your child's disability.

Maryland Community Connection: 301-583-0358 [dda.health.maryland.gov/Pages/liss.aspx](http://dda.health.maryland.gov/Pages/liss.aspx)

## MD State ID Card

Apply for a Maryland State ID Card from the Motor Vehicle Administration, when student turns 16 years old

1-800-950-1682 [mva.maryland.gov/drivers/apply/id-card.htm](http://mva.maryland.gov/drivers/apply/id-card.htm)

## Medical Assistance

Apply for Medical Assistance when your child turns 18 years old. This is mandatory as part of the eligibility process for DDA funded adult services. If your child receives SSI, Medical Assistance is provided.

MD Health Connection: 1-855-642-8572 Medicaid: 1-800-492-5231 [marylandhealthconnection.gov](http://marylandhealthconnection.gov)

## Montgomery County Public Schools Transition Services & Parent Workshops

Montgomery County Public Schools transition information for parents and students with IEP for ages 14 to 21.

301-649-8008

[montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/special-education/programs-services/transition-services-unit.aspx](http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/special-education/programs-services/transition-services-unit.aspx)

## Recreation

Subscribe to Montgomery County Parks & Rec Program GUIDES (Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall, and Summer Camps)

Customer Service: 240-777-6840 Countywide Programs: 240-777-6870 [montgomerycountymd.gov/rec](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/rec)

## Register with Selective Service System

Help your son register with the Selective Service System when he turns 18 years old. Visit a local Post Office or online.

[sss.gov](http://sss.gov)

## Register to Vote

1-800-222-8683 [elections.maryland.gov](http://elections.maryland.gov)

## Respite Care

Contact The Arc Montgomery County to learn how you can take a break from the demands of caregiving

## Supplemental Security Income

At 18 years old, an adult will be evaluated on his/her own income and assets, not the family's.

1-800-772-1213 [socialsecurity.gov/ssi](http://socialsecurity.gov/ssi)

## Transportation Programs

Apply for all available local transportation programs prior to graduation.

Ride On: 240-777-0311 MetroAccess Eligibility: 301-562-5360 [montgomerycountymd.gov/tnd](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/tnd)