

**TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL  
DISTRICT 211**

**TRANSITION SERVICES**

**TRANSITION  
RESOURCE  
DIRECTORY**

**A PLANNING AID FOR PARENTS AND  
STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

Updated: 9/07

## **Disclaimer**

In this Transition Resource Directory, every effort has been made to report accurate information about appropriate agencies and service providers. It was created in order to assist parents and students investigate and compare transition options, as well as to provide current information about organizations that offer assistance or services for adults with disabilities. We are not endorsing, recommending, nor guaranteeing any products, agency/individual services, distributors, programs, facilities, organizations, or institutions.

Parents and guardians are urged to make every effort to examine, compare, and evaluate, as thoroughly and judiciously as possible, all agencies, services, programs and facilities to assure the most appropriate matches and satisfactory transition.

The Transition Services Department has made every effort to include accurate and correct information. Please notify us a (847) 755-1846 if any errors or discrepancies are identified.

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## PREFACE

Planning to transition from high school to the adult working community is an exciting process in life that involves considerable time and energy to determine options appropriate to meet the needs of the individual. Deciding "What will I do after graduation?" can be very unsettling and a confusing period of time. Graduating from high school is a time of change and involves diverse and complex issues." Where will I work, live or go for additional education or training" are decisions that require much thought and planning. These issues provide even greater concern to those students and parents who have received special education support services during their high school years.

Becoming equipped with knowledge and information regarding available services and support can greatly decrease feelings of anxiety and frustration. This opens up the way for families and students to move toward maximizing productive independence.

The design and purpose of this handbook is to provide a variety of information in the areas of services that are most essential in becoming a productive, independent member of the community.

Upon graduation, students are no longer entitled to the federally mandated services available through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. For this reason parents must make a committed effort to acquire as much knowledge and information regarding services related to their son or daughter's needs.

## AS A PARENT YOU ARE IMPORTANT

Parents should play a major part in the development of their son or daughter's career education plan. When aiding in charting your child's educational directions, a parent should be mindful that they can serve as:

**Providers of lesser-known information:** For example, parents know what motivates and conversely what frustrates their child. Parents also possess insights into their child's traits, interests, and abilities. Such knowledge is too valuable to be ignored in career planning.

**Role Models:** The way you, the parent, talk and perform your duties within the home and on the job transmits the value of work in and out of the home. You must consciously stress the benefits and responsibilities of work and promote the important assumption that your child will be a working member of society. What kind of message are you sending your son or daughter?

**Case Overseers:** Service providers enter at different times in your child's life. In most cases this is a non-constant influence on your child. The only real consistent resource a child has is you, the parent. The better grasp you have on your child's long range plans for schooling and employment, the less likely important information, deadlines and opportunities will be missed.

**Risk Takers:** As a parent of a child with special needs, you may often hear others tell you, "just let go." Letting go might mean using public transportation, spending their own money, calling a boy or girl on the telephone, joining a club or attending a special event on their own. Letting go is the most important element to allow for growth and maturity. As a parent, you must not focus on what your child cannot do, but rather on what he or she CAN do.

**Financial Planners:** Financial planning involves a great deal of time and effort. Being knowledgeable about the different benefit programs and how they link up with one another and also with family assets is a necessity in preventing the needs of one family member from overburdening the rest of the family's well being. Numerous forms must be filled out and submitted on time in order to access the federal, state, school, agency, and special financial supports that are available.

## **GUARDIANSHIP INFORMATION**

**Center for Disability & Elder Law**  
**710 N. Lake Shore Drive**  
**Chicago, Illinois 60611**

**312-908-4463**

**Parent must call and personally ask for a Guardianship Packet. Once this is filled out and returned, the family is assigned a case worker.**

# COMMUNITY LIVING

## CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

**Community Alternatives Unlimited**  
**8765 W. Higgins, Suite 300**  
**Chicago, IL 60631**  
**Phone 773-867-4000**  
**FAX 773-867-4165**  
**<http://www.cau.org>**

Community Alternatives Unlimited (CAU), a case management agency, serves the north side of Chicago and the northern suburbs of Cook and Lake Counties. This direct service provides assistance to people with developmental disabilities, which are defined as: Mental Retardation, Autism, Epilepsy, and Cerebral Palsy. The disability must have occurred before the age of 18 years of age.

Linkages to CAU are important if you have a child with a developmental disability because it is the pre-screening agency (PAS) for the northwest suburbs of Chicago. This means if your child needs a sheltered workshop, day training or residential program, CAU must pre-approve the placement in order to access state funding. In other words, they are the gatekeepers for DD services, programs and funding.

Case management involves a personal, one-to-one relationship between the case manager and the consumer. Case managers develop a comprehensive service plan for each person. This plan identifies any needs or services such as:

- A place to live
- A place to work
- Work skills training
- Medical/diagnostic and learning evaluations
- Professional help in dealing with behavior problems
- Financial assistance and entitlement eligibility through social security, public aid, the Illinois Department of Human Services, or other federal, state, and local agencies
- Crisis intervention services
- After school services
- Recreation and leisure time activities
- Psychotherapy and clinical assistance
- Maternal and child health case management



## **SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICES**

SUPPORTED LIVING SERVICES is a new program developed by the Office of Developmental Disabilities (Illinois Dept. of Human Services) that offers an array of services and supports to adults diagnosed with a developmental disability (D.D). This is defined as mental retardation (IQ must be 69 or lower), cerebral palsy, autism, or epilepsy.

The SLS program is targeting young adults who have exited special education within the past five years. Persons must have aged out of special education services, therefore should be twenty-one or over.

The SLS money is designated for individuals with significant disabilities including those who may not be served by the Department of Rehabilitation Services (D.R.S.). It is intended to pay for programs such as developmental training and sheltered workshops. Please see below for services.

It is essential that parents apply for and obtain a Medicaid number prior to applying for SLS services. Please refer to Medicaid.

### **Description**

- Each individual enrolled in this new program may receive an array of services and supports (listed below).
- Individuals enrolled in SLS may not receive any other DHS-funded developmental disability services, except Vocational Rehabilitation services from DHS' Office of Rehabilitation Services (DRS). All current and future services received must be included in the SLS array within the SLS dollar cost maximum.

### **Services**

- "SLS Team Leader" services (to develop and coordinate the service plan)
- Skilled Nursing
- Behavioral Services, Therapy, and Counseling from a Licensed Professional
- Direct Support Worker
- Respite
- Speech, Physical and Occupational Therapies
- Developmental Training, Supported Employment or Adult Day Care
- Transportation

**Eligibility**

Individuals who meet **all** of the following criteria are eligible for SLS:

- Age 18 or older;
- Resident of Illinois living in Illinois;
- Eligible for Medicaid in Illinois;
- Diagnosed as having a developmental disability;
- Determined by the local Pre-Admission Screening agency (PAS) to need continuous supports and services (ICFDD level of care) for the developmental disability; and
- Need an array of services to remain in the home and avoid or delay residential services.

**Priority Services**

DHS is giving service priority to eligible persons who have been defined as:

- Individuals who are currently not receiving any support services from the Office of DD or the Office of Rehabilitation Services, except respite or federally funded vocational rehabilitation services, and
- Individuals who have exited special education within the last five years, OR
- Individuals who are living with only one caregiver.

**Application**

Contact the Pre-Admission Screening agency (PAS = Community Alternatives: (773) 867-4000) in your area for more information and applications. If you need help locating your local PAS agency, please contact the Office of Developmental Disabilities at 217/524-2515 in Springfield, and 312/814-6594 in Chicago. Capacity is limited, since there are limited available slots within a geographic area.

# COMMUNITY LIVING ALTERNATIVES

Residential services are provided by a variety of state and non-profit agencies. The goal of residential services is to provide homes for individuals. Because we all have individual needs, some people choose to live in a group and others may choose to live independently, with only the assistance of an attendant. Still others may want to live with one other person of their choice. It is important to understand that while individuals may be served under a variety of residential models, funding and eligibility criteria will vary and be the ultimate determinant of the appropriate options. Be prepared to advocate for the services you want for your special needs child.

As a parent, you must recognize that due to the shortage of residential facilities in the State of Illinois, there may be an extensive waiting period between the time you initiate contact and the time of actual placement. It is crucial that you investigate opportunities early and place your name on waiting lists you consider appropriate to your situation.

Residential facilities are known by many names. These refer to the type of facility and the amount of support services available. Below is a list of the most common types of facilities. To assist in the search for appropriate residential options, it is important to become familiar with these terms.

Independent - Little or no support services

- On own
- With family

Shared Housing - Range of support services

- Mentor Match - Individuals with special needs are matched with non-disabled adults to share a home or apartment.
- HIP (Home/Individual Placement) - refers to living arrangements in which a person is placed with a family in the community.

**CILA (Community Integrated Living Arrangement)** - a network of support services built upon personalized support and case management. Services may include health, leisure and recreational activities, social services, education, day or vocational services and residential support. Clients live in a house or apartment with no live-in staff. These houses or apartments are located within the community to provide greater flexibility for individualized programming. Staff checks in with clients and assists them in planning meals and budgeting. Clients do their own shopping, cooking, and housekeeping.

**CSLA (Community Supported Living Arrangement)** - is designed to provide supports and services (e.g. in home habilitation and personal assistance), as needed and chosen. These services are intended to assist adults in living successfully in the community with or near their family and friends.

**Group Homes** - Range of support services:

- ICF (Intermediate Care Facility) — refers to a program for clients who need assistance and training in daily living and self-care skills. Special attention is given to behavioral control programming. Clients live with several people in dorm-like buildings or small homes on facility grounds. The facility provides 24-hour supervision. Other available services include; speech, social, prevocational, and hearing, but does not service clients who require nursing care.
- CLF (Community Living Facility) - refers to a program for clients who need training and guidance in most skill areas; social, vocational, daily living and mobility. The emphasis is on training for a more independent setting. The clients usually live in a facility that resembles dorms. Clients share a room with at least one other person. Staff provides skill training. Supervision is 24 hours.
- SLA (Supported Living Arrangement) - refers to programs similar to the CILA, but usually located within the supervision of a larger support system structure, rather than within the community itself.

**Skilled Nursing Homes** - Intensive support services:

- ICFDD (Intermediate Care Facility for the Developmentally Disabled) - refers to an ICF that include 24-hour skilled nursing care.
- Long Term Care Facility.

**Term Descriptions:** All residential facilities identify which populations they are designed to serve. Below is a description of the abbreviations, which will often be used.

- PH - Physically Handicapped
- DD - Developmentally Disabled
- MR - Cognitive Disability (IQ<70)  
Autistic/Asperger Syndrome
- CP - Cerebral Palsy  
Seizure Disorder
- MI - Mentally Ill (Schools refer to as BD/SED, Behavior Disorder/Social Emotional Disorder), but adult facilities require a psychiatric diagnosis
- VI - Visually Impaired
- HI - Hearing Impaired
- LD - Learning Disabled
- PA - Public Aid
- SSI - Supplemental Security Income
- PI - Private Insurance
- DMH- Department of Mental Health

# QUESTIONS TO ASK WHEN SELECTING A FACILITY

1. How many people live here?
2. What kinds of skills/jobs do the other people who live here have?
3. What is the maximum length of stay?
4. Is there a waiting list? How long is the waiting list?
5. What are the requirements to be considered?
6. What is the monthly cost for service?
7. Do you accept Medicare or Medicaid payments?
8. What is the staff/resident ratio per shift?
9. What specific living arrangements are provided?
10. What are each individual's responsibilities in upkeep of the home?
11. What support and other services are provided other than room and board?
12. What community based leisure activities are available?
13. What in-house leisure activities are available? How often are these available?
14. What community resources are available in the immediate neighborhood?
15. What assurances are there to guarantee individuals' rights?
16. What is the policy for home visits?
17. How can parents/guardians give input on facility or family/friend rights to your programs?
18. Do you provide transportation for personal and social needs, to and from job, or therapeutic appointments at no additional cost?
19. Can an individual who lives here actively search for or maintain employment?
20. Can an individual who lives here have full responsibility for his/her financial affairs?

## EMERGENCY and TEMPORARY HOUSING

### **American Red Cross**

Arlington Heights Service Center  
544 W. Northwest Highway  
Arlington Hts., Illinois 60004  
(847)255-0703

[www.chicagoredcross.org](http://www.chicagoredcross.org)

- Emergency housing provided for those involved in natural disasters

### **Catholic Charities - Northwest Suburbs**

1717 Rand Road  
Des Plaines, IL  
(847)376-2100

- Temporary housing for families in crisis for up to 6 months

### **CEDA Northwest Self-Help Center**

1300 W. Northwest Highway  
Mount Prospect, IL 60056  
(847) 392-2332

- Emergency housing provided to families in crisis • affordable housing for the homeless for up to 2 years

**Community Alternatives Unlimited**

8765 W. Higgins Road Suite 300

Chicago, IL 60631

(773) 867-4000

- Referral to emergency or temporary housing for individuals in crisis with a developmental disability or mental disability

**Hope House**

P.O. Box 696

Lombard, IL 60148

(630)941-8681

- Emergency housing for ages 18-65 (21 day maximum)

**The Harbor, Inc.**

1480 Renaissance Dr. Suite 412

Park Ridge, IL 60068

(847) 297-8540

- Emergency housing for single females ages 12 to 17 (21 day maximum)
- Transitional Living Program for single females ages 17 to 21 (6 month maximum)
- Independent Living Program for 17 to 21 year old females with a diploma or GED (financial support as well as assistance in finding an apartment)

**Northwest Suburban PADS**

1140 E. Northwest Hwy

Palatine, IL 60074

(847)963-9163

- Temporary shelter at 23 local churches (rotates nightly) available October 1st through April 30th
- No maximum stay or age limit Hope Center (same contact as above)
- Offers daily access to social service supports, such as social workers, mental health, clothing, medical, and food

**Salvation Army**

800 W Lawrence Avenue

Chicago, IL 60640

(773) 275-9383

- Shelter provided for families on a transition basis (up to 5 months)

**Shelter, Inc.**

1616 N. Arlington Heights Road

Arlington Heights, IL 60004

(847) 255- 8060

- Emergency housing for ages 0 to 18
  - Temporary housing for ages 11 to 17 (21 day maximum)
  - Transitional Living for males, ages 16 to 18 (unlimited stay)
- Foster Care for ages 0 to 18

The grid on the following pages lists area facilities and answers several key questions about each facility. Addresses and phone numbers are given to allow you to contact a facility for further information.

<b>Facility Name and Address</b>	<b>Telephone`</b>	<b>Disability</b>
Alden Old Town East, 108 South First Street, Bloomingdale, IL 60108	630-671-1703	DD, MR
Alden Old Town West, 118 Bloomingdale Rd. Bloomingdale, IL 60108	630-671-1660	DD, MR
Alden Trails, 273 Army Trail Road, Bllomingdale, IL 60108	630-671-1990	DD, MR
Assoc. For Individual Development (AID), 1135 Bowes Rd., Elgin, IL 60120	630-741-9175	MR, PH
Assoc. For Individual Development (AID), 309 W. New Indian Trail Ct., Aurora, IL 60506	630-966-4000	MR, PH
Avenues to Independence, 100 N. Clifton, Park Ridge, IL 60068	847-825-6498	DD
Bethesda Lutheran Home, 1480 Reckinger Rd., Aurora, IL 60505	630-851-6777	CP, DD, I'll, MI, MR,PH, VI
Bethesda Lutheran Home, 700 Hoffman Drive, Watertown, WI 53094	414-261-3050	CP, DD, I'll, MI, MR,PH, VI
Blare House Inc., 1760 Birchwood, Des Plaines, IL 60018	847-299-2200	Autistic
Builders of Skill, 901 Clifton, Niles, IL 60648	847-296-6783	MN, DD, Deaf
Clearbrook Center, 2800 Central Road, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008	847-259-6820	DD
Clearbrook Commons, 746 S. Vermont St., Palatine, IL 60076	847-991-4100	MR
Clearbrook , 1825 W. Central Rd., Rolling Meadows, IL 60008	847-394-8539	MR
Glenkirk Circle, 26719 N. Owens Rd., Mundelein, IL	847-272-5111	MR, DD
Glenkirk Moraine, Highland Park, IL 60035	847-272-5111	DD
Glenkirk Small Group Homes, 3675 Commercial Ave., Northbrook, IL	847-272-5111	DD
Golfview Development Center, 9555 Golf Rd., Des Plaines, IL 60016	847-827-6628	DD
Ray Graham Association, 420 W. Madison, Elmhurst, IL 60126	630-543-2440	DD
Kiley Developmental Center, 1201 Dugdale Circle, Waukegan, IL 60085	847-249-0600	MR
The Lambs, P.O. Box 520, Libertyville, IL	847-362-4636	MR
Oak Lyden, 411 W. Chicago Ave., Oak Park, IL 60302	708-524-1050	DD
Marklund Center, 27 W. 751 Shady Way, Winfield, IL	630-529-2971	DD
Meadows, 3250 S. Plum Grove Road, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008	847-397-0055	DD
Miscencordia/Heart of Mercy, 6300 N. Ridge Ave., Chicago, IL 60660	773-973-6300	DD
Mt. St. Joseph's, 24955 N. Rand Rd., Lake Zurich, IL 60047	847-438-5050	*MR

Neumann Association, 5547 N. Ravenswood, Chicago, IL 60640	773-769-4313	*MR
New Hope, 8450 N. Payne, Indianapolis, IN 46268	317-338-9600	DD,PH
Open Door C L Facility, 405 S. Wells, Sandwich, IL 60548	847-786-8468	DD
Orchard Assoc. for the Retarded/Orchard Village 7670 Marmora Manor, Apt. 2, Skokie, IL 60077	847-967-1800	*MR
Pioneer Court, 4001 Dayton, McHenry, IL 60050	815-344-1230	DD
Riverside Foundation, 14588 W. Hwy. 22, Lincolnshire, IL 60069	847-634-3973	*DD
St. Coletta, W4955 Highway 18, Jefferson, WI 53549	920-674-4330	*MR, DD
St. Mary's of Providence, 4200 Austin Ave., Chicago, IL 60634	773-545-8300	DD
St. Mary's Square Living Center, 239 S. Cherry St., Galesburg, IL 61401	309-343-4101	DD
Sheltered Village, 600 Borden, Woodstock, IL 60098	815-338-6440	*DD
Shore Community for Retarded Citizens, 503 Michigan, Evanston, IL 60602	847-328-3755	MR
Shore Lois Lloyd Center 2525 Church St. Evanston, IL 60202	847-869-7900	*MR
Tac Home (3), 421 Constitution Dr., Aurora, IL 60506	630-859-7650	*MR
Winning Wheels, 701 E. 3 <sup>rd</sup> St. Prophetstown, IL 61277	815-537-5168	PH

# POST HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

## COLLEGE CONSIDERATIONS

When considering college ask yourself the following questions:

- What are my goals?
- What are my career ambitions?
- Does the college offer a variety of majors if I change my mind?
- Do you need college for the career you are pursuing?
- What learning opportunities do I need?
- Will the college provide accommodations?
- Is there a separate admissions policy for students with disabilities?

## MAKING A COLLEGE CHOICE

The following considerations should be addressed depending on your special needs:

- Students should be able to discuss their disabilities and needed accommodations.
- Make sure psychological testing is up to date. (This is a requirement for many support services at the college level.)
- Consider how their disability may affect their social interactions or judgments with peers or employers.
- Make contact with the local Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) before graduation. DRS offers a variety of services to eligible students such as vocational assessment, job placement, and financial assistance.
- Obtain all special testing records before high school graduation.
- Make sure student has good study skills. Consider special study skill classes at the high school, community college or individual tutoring.
- Consider how much support or special help the student is receiving. The overall amount of support is significantly less at the college level.
- Consider a vocational assessment as a way to amplify present and future goals.
- Help students increase independent living skills. (Manage their own checking account, do their own laundry, some cooking, cleaning)
- Encourage part time jobs or volunteer positions to improve socialization skills as well as to give a better understanding of work situations and expectations and responsibility.
- Students should be aware of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, which indicates the types of accommodations that must be provided at a postsecondary institution. This is different from the mandated services at the high school level.
- Get information on special exam arrangements for SAT and/or ACT. Options include extended time, readers or cassettes.
- **MAKE SURE IT IS THE STUDENT'S CHOICE TO ATTEND COLLEGE.** It will require high motivation and a good understanding of their strengths and weaknesses. It may be harder and take more time to manage

college level work. No one will be checking for completed homework, attendance, or how he or she is doing.

- Try to visit colleges before making a definite choice. Look also at the communities in which they are located.

Students who are Physically Challenged, Visually or Hearing Impaired should address the following:

- Make sure PT, OF, Audiology, and Visual assessments are current. Only qualified specialists should administer such evaluations.
- Obtain all special testing records before high school graduation.
- Make contact with the Office of Rehabilitation before graduation. DRS offers a variety of services to eligible students such as vocational assessment, job placement, and financial assistance.
- Consider a vocational assessment as a way to amplify present and future goals.
- Student should be aware of accommodations needed.
- Students should increase independent living skills: utilize the on campus support services to identify potential sources for personal care attendants, interpreters, mobility instruction, wheelchair repair etc.
- Encourage students to be their own advocates.
- Consult with the high school to get a good understanding of how much support or special help the student is receiving. It is important to determine realistically whether minimal support services or an extensive program at the college level is necessary.

Understanding exactly what services are available at the college of your choice is a very important aspect regarding your decision. This involves knowing who the provider is and how that service/support is accessed. In your search, you may want to use the College Comparison Worksheet on the next page.

## COLLEGE COMPARISON WORKSHEET

<b>NAME OF COLLEGE</b>			
<b>ADMISSIONS</b>			
Separate Admission to LD Program Req.			
Test Required (ACT/SAT)			
GPA/Class Rank			
High School Courses Required for Entrance			
Is there a waiting list? (additional charge for any of these)			
<b>CURRICULUM</b>			
Majors of Interest			
Required Subjects			
<b>CAMPUS LIFE</b>			
Distance from Home			
Housing and Dorm Financial Plans Available			
College Setting (Size of Town/City)			
<b>COSTS/FINANCIAL AID</b>			
Application Fee			
Tuition			
Room and Board			
Financial Aid Forms Required			
Additional Costs for LD Services			
Additional Costs for Other Services			
<b>OFFICIAL DEADLINES</b>			
Admission Application Deadline			
Financial Aid Forms Required			
Special Program Application Deadlines			
<b>SPECIAL SERVICES</b>			
Tutoring Available			
Recorded Textbooks, Tests			
Time Extension on Tests			
Calculators Allowed in Math			
Oral Essay Tests			
Help with Written Work			
Academic Advising			
Peer Support Groups			
Additional Services			
Special Academic Advisory			
Specialized Seating			
LD/PH/VI/HI Specialists on Staff			
Personal Assistants Available (PH)			
Advocacy Services			
Career Counseling			
Additional Fees For Support Counseling			
Can Student Obtain Foreign Language or Math Substitution?			
<b>MISC. NOTES/QUESTIONS</b>			

# WHAT COLLEGES CONSIDER IN SELECTING STUDENTS

Colleges ARE interested in admitting the best students available. Applicants must be prepared to carry out the academic work of the school at the expected level of performance. Institutional research has determined that the student's high school record (subjects taken, grades, rank in class) is the best predictor of success in college. Scores on admissions tests and counselor's recommendations are also helpful in determining whether students will be successful. **MANY COLLEGES PREFER TO SEE MAINSTREAM COURSES WITH LOWER GRADES THAN SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSES OR BASIC COURSES WITH HIGHER GRADES.**

## RECOMMENDED GUIDE FOR ACADEMIC PREPARATION

### Types of Programs

<b>ACADEMIC AREAS</b>	Community College Career Programs, Vocational Schools	4-Year Colleges and Universities & Community College Transfer Programs*	Highly Selective Colleges and Universities
<b>ENGLISH</b>	4 Years	4 Years emphasis of written and oral communication and literature	4 years
<b>MATHEMATICS</b>	2 Years	3 Years: Algebra, Geometry Algebra 2 & Trigonometry	4 Years Recommended through Calculus
<b>SCIENCE</b> (Laboratory Sciences)	1 to 2 Years	3 Years Recommended Core Areas: Biology, Chemistry & Physics	4 Years Recommended Core Areas: Biology, Chemistry & Physics
<b>SOCIAL SCIENCE</b>	2 Years	2 to 3 Years Emphasis on History and Government (requirement varies)	3 to 4 years
<b>FOREIGN LANGUAGE</b>	None Required	2 years**	2 to 4 years

\* The chart indicates the recommended course distribution for Illinois public universities; however, some state institutions may permit students to substitute courses in one academic area for deficiencies in another area. Illinois public universities may also accept courses in vocational education (applied technology, art, business or home economics) to meet these requirements.

\*\*Foreign language preparation may be recommended or required by colleges and universities.

# COLLEGE RESOURCES

Helpful resources that can be accessed when seeking information regarding colleges that provide services for students with special needs include:

**K&W GUIDE TO COLLEGES FOR THE LEARNING DISABLED**

**LOVEJOY'S COLLEGE GUIDE FOR THE LEARNING DISABLED**

**PETERSON'S GUIDE TO COLLEGES WITH PROGRAMS FOR LEARNING  
DISABLED STUDENTS**

## COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Harper College is our local community college and provides many services for students with special needs. Other community colleges in our area are also listed.

### **William Rainey Harper College**

#### **Access & Disability Services**

1200 W. Algonquin Road,  
Palatine, IL 60067-7398  
847/925-6266  
847/397-7600 (TTY)

### **College of Du Page**

425 Fawell Blvd.  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137  
Special Student Services  
630/942-2306  
630/942-4260  
TTY/630/858-9692  
[www.cod.edu](http://www.cod.edu)

### **Elgin Community College**

1700 Spartan Drive  
Elgin, IL 60123  
Learning Centers  
ADA Coordinator  
847/214-722  
[www.elgin.edu](http://www.elgin.edu)

### **College of Lake County**

19351 W. Washington  
Grayslake, IL 60030  
Office of Students with Disabilities  
847/543-2474  
TTY/847-223-0134  
[www.clcillinois.edu/dept/dis.asp](http://www.clcillinois.edu/dept/dis.asp)

### **Oakton Community College**

1600 E. Golf Road  
Des Plaines, IL 60016  
Special Needs Coordinator  
847/635-1759  
[www.oakton.edu](http://www.oakton.edu)

**McHenry County College**  
8900 U.S.Hwy. 14  
Crystal Lake, IL 60012-2738  
Special Needs  
815/455-8676  
TTY/815-455-7237  
[www.mchenry.edu](http://www.mchenry.edu)

**Triton College**  
2000 5th Ave.  
River Grove, IL 60171  
Student Support Services  
708/456-0300 ext. 3854  
[www.triton.edu](http://www.triton.edu)

## **COLLEGES WITH PROGRAMS FOR PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED STUDENTS**

This listing does not represent an endorsement by our district. It is meant to provide a starting point for college selection.

**Arizona State University**  
Disability Resources for Students  
Tempe, AZ 85287 (480)965-9011

**University of Illinois**  
Rehabilitation Education Services  
1207 S. Oak St.  
Champaign, IL 61820  
(217)333-1970

**Southern Illinois University**  
Disability Support Services  
Woody Hall B-150  
Carbondale, IL 62901  
(618) 453-5738 (also TDD)

**University of Wisconsin**  
Whitewater Center for Students with Disabilities  
Whitewater, WI 53190  
(262) 472-4788

**Wright State University**  
Office of Disability Services  
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.  
Dayton, OH 45435  
(937) 775-5680

## **COLLEGES WITH PROGRAMS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED**

**Gallaudet University**  
800 Florida Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
(202) 651-5000 (voice)

**Northern Illinois University**  
Program for the Hearing Impaired  
DeKalb, IL 60115 (815)753-6503

**Rochester Institute of Technology**  
National Technical Institute for the Deaf  
52 Lomb Memorial Dr.  
Rochester, NY 14623  
(585) 475-6236

# **OTHER SOURCES FOR FURTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

(NOT FOR CREDIT)

## **Community Education District 211**

1750 S. Roselle Road  
Palatine, IL 60067  
847-755-6820

## **Community Education District 214**

2121 S. Goebbert  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005  
847-718-7700

## **VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

Training for specific occupations is available through a variety of sources: community colleges, private vocational schools, apprenticeships, publicly supported training programs, and on-the-job training. The following pages provide a general introduction to the opportunities in the surrounding area that may be accessed by high school graduates.

## **COMMUNITY COLLEGE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

The Community College System in the State of Illinois is an excellent place for the student with special needs to begin post secondary education. There are three basic options available for the individual to utilize:

- The transfer program provides the first two years of the traditional four-year bachelor's degree with an associate's degree being achieved when requirements are completed.
- Two year vocationally oriented associate's degree programs are offered in a wide variety of career fields. These occupational areas have been selected based on employment surveys of statewide and local business and industry. Many of these programs may be extended or capped with a related bachelor's degree program.
- Vocational proficiency certificate programs offer the opportunity to acquire specific career training in a demand occupational area. In these the student takes only those courses related to the specific vocation. While similar in nature to the typical vocational school program, these differ in that a student can later use these course credits as the foundation for additional two or four year degrees; and they usually prove to be substantially lower in cost than private school training.

Because these institutions are publicly endowed, they are eligible for all federal, state and local governmental funding of support services for students with special needs. Students in the northwest suburbs typically attend William Rainey Harper College, our local district institution, for all programs that Harper offers in order to be eligible to pay in-district tuition and fees for their course work.

**Special needs services may be obtained by contacting:**

William Rainey Harper College Access and Disability Services  
1200 W. Algonquin Road,  
Palatine, IL 60067-7398  
• (847) 925-6266 • (847) 397-7600 (TTY)

If an individual would like to attend a vocational training program not available at Harper, he or she may participate in one of the **joint agreement programs** that allows a student to attend a surrounding area community college for the program not taught at Harper and pay only in-district tuition and fees at that institution. A complete listing of programs that are currently under this contract may be obtained through Harper or the Student Services Department at your high school. Special needs support services at the individual institutions may be contacted at:

College of DuPage  
425 Fawell Blvd.  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137  
Special Student Services  
(630) 942-2306

Elgin Community College  
1700 Spartan Drive  
Elgin, IL 60123  
Learning Centers

College of Lake County  
19351 W. Washington  
Grayslake, IL 60030  
Office for Students with  
Disabilities  
(847)223-6601 ext. 2474

Triton College  
2000 5th Ave.  
River Grove, IL 60171  
Student Support Services  
(708) 456-0300 ext. 3854

Oakton Community College  
1600 E. Golf Road  
Des Plaines, IL 60016  
O'Sullivan Assist  
(847) 635- 1759

## **TECHNICAL/TRADE SCHOOLS PRIVATE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS**

In the Chicago area and throughout the country, many private vocational schools offer a wide variety of career training programs. Because these schools advertise extensively in the media, some schools have achieved a high level of "name recognition." Programs vary a great deal in quality, thus parents and students should practice good consumer skills when investigating and contracting for vocational education. This is particularly true for those in need of special support services since the additional trained personnel required providing these may incur costs, which are prohibitive to a private school. Each of the area high schools maintains information on vocational schools.

There are over 210 career schools that indicate they provide accommodations for students with disabilities. Those accredited by NATTS, the National Association of Trade and Technical Schools, receive federal assistance and must comply with program accessibility requirements contained in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Many schools are training disabled students to meet the changing needs of our country's competitive job market.

## **SCHOOLS OFFERING VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

A number of schools offer vocational training within specific skill areas. A partial list of area schools can be obtained through the high school guidance department. A comprehensive listing is available through the following guides:

Peterson's Vocational and Technical Schools,  
4th ed. Thomson Learning Inc  
[www.petersons.com](http://www.petersons.com)

Chronicle Vocational School Manual  
Chronicle Guidance Publications Inc.  
[www.chronicleguidance.com](http://www.chronicleguidance.com)

## **FACTORS TO CONSIDER IN CHOOSING A TECHNICAL OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL**

1. What are the specific programs offered by this school? How will this school provide the specific support services or accommodations you need? Can you transfer from one program to another within the school? Can you transfer credits from this school to another?
2. Are you certain you want to go into this vocational field? How will your special needs affect your performance in this career? Does the school provide a testing program to help you find out if you qualify?
3. What kinds of jobs do people obtain when they complete the program? Does the school provide placement services? What is their placement rate? Are these placements audited?
4. Is there a current demand for people in this field in your home area?
5. How can you judge if the school is good or not good?
  - a. Talk to people who have attended the school and to those who are currently enrolled. Seek out those who received support services.
  - b. Visit the school yourself. You can observe such things as composition and age of student body, equipment, and facilities.
  - c. Check with the Illinois State Board of Education-Vocational Schools Certification Division, a professional accrediting agency and with the Better Business Bureau.
  - d. Ask for the names of employers of former students, and check with these employers to see how they regard the school.
6. Be certain to read all papers carefully especially those involving costs. Some schools use contracts that obligate you to pay for the whole course even if you don't complete it. Schools with that type of contract may not have much to offer in their program.
7. Do not sign any contract or agreement without having thoroughly investigated the school and its credentials or without comparing the program with that of the community college as well as other vocational schools.

# ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF APPRENTICESHIP INFORMATION

**What is an apprentice?** An apprentice is a paid worker who enrolled in a special training program administered by an employer together with a labor organization or trade association. Most apprentices work in trades related to construction.

**Apprenticeship is a formal method of training in a skilled occupation, craft or trade.** During the apprenticeship period, the apprentice receives 2,000 hours or more of structured on- the-job training with at least 144 hours of related classroom instruction. Apprenticeship requires a written agreement between the program sponsor (employer) and the apprentice.

**Equal Employment Opportunity.** Apprenticeships provide equal employment opportunity: Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. However, admission is highly competitive. To be selected, you must meet the qualifications of the particular trade and program for which you are applying.

**Apprenticeship qualifications vary from one trade to the next, but most require:**

- A high school diploma or General Equivalency Diploma (GED)
- Physical fitness
- Your own transportation
- Ability to work with your hands

Apprenticeship is the best route to a career in a skilled trade. Such careers offer excellent wages and benefits. Moreover, they provide a sense of accomplishment, as the results of work done are there for all to see. During the next ten to fifteen years, the number of construction-related jobs in Illinois is expected to grow at a very healthy pace, with the greatest growth occurring in electrical work, masonry and stonework, plastering, and other specialties.

## **Trades Offering Apprenticeships:**

Boilermaker	
Glazier Patternmaker	
Insulator	
Line Erector	Bricklayer
Millwright	Cabinetmaker
Operating Engineer	Carpenter
Ornamental Ironworker	Cement Mason
Painter/Decorator	Drywall Finisher
Pipefitter	Electrician
Plasterer	Floor Coverer (Resilient)
Plumber	Terrazzo/Tile Layer
Precision Metalworker	Tuckpointer
Roofer	
Sheet Metal Worker	
Sprinkler Fitter	
Structural Ironworker	

**Many trades also require:**

- Above average math skills
- Ability to work at elevated heights
- Completion of courses such as drafting, industrial arts, applied English and Algebra

**Required documentation varies from one trade to the next but most will require:**

- Your high school diploma or GED certificate
- The names and addresses of the high schools or vocation schools you attended
- A copy of your birth certificate
- The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of two or three persons who have agreed to serve as personal references
- If you are a veteran, your Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (Form DD-214)

**IDES can help you get started.** Some offices serve as Apprenticeship Information Centers. There, you can obtain detailed information about apprenticeships. Staff will help you decide which trade would best suit you, and can tell you about entrance requirements and when apprenticeship programs are accepting applications.

**Where to apply:** The IDES Apprenticeship Information Center for the Northwest Suburban Area is in Arlington Heights. 723 W. Algonquin Rd. (847) 981-7400.

# WorkNet Northern Cook County

## THE ILLINOIS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING CENTER / (IETC)

Web Address: <http://www.commerce.state.il.us>

Network phone: 888-FOR-IETC

Local Center: Northwest Suburban Employment and Training Center

723 West Algonquin Road Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005

847-981-7400

Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

WorkNet Northern Cook County network is an innovative, customer-driven system designed to provide employment and training services to job seekers and employers, in cooperation with local educational institutions. It is a one-stop source where the public can easily access a broad array of employment, training, educational and related services.

This "One Stop" Career Center is designed for individuals who are:

- Unemployed or employed seeking a new job or a career change
- Students seeking a career direction
- Employers seeking the right person for a job

The center is a partnership of:

- Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES)
- Northwest Suburban Special Education Organization
- Business & Career Services
- Department of Human Services-Office of Rehabilitation Services

The center offers a variety of services, of which most are free of cost. These include:

- Personal assessments and job referral assistance
- Education and training program enrollment
- Job-specific training
- Computer training
- Multi-media resource centers
- Unemployment Insurance
- Computer/Internet Access
- FAX and Copy Machines
- Resume Service
- Research Library
- Job Listings
- Job Re-training

# WorkNet-Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES)

Web Address: <http://www.ides.state.il.us>

Four main services are coordinated through the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES). These include:

- Unemployment Insurance - Information and application for benefits
- Apprenticeship Information Center
- Illinois Employment Services
- Community Economic Development Association

**Unemployment Insurance:** This is a state-operated program under which individuals are entitled to benefit payments while unemployed. There are certain legal requirements that must be met before payments will be authorized. Benefits are financed solely by employers' payroll taxes - not by any deductions from employee wages. Claims for unemployment insurance benefits may be registered with the local IDES office on the first working day after unemployment begins. Registration with Illinois Employment Services is required.

**Illinois Employment Services:** Candidates for unemployment, as well as any individual seeking employment, are provided with a variety of resources to find a job through the Illinois Employment Services. Job listings, counseling, and job referral and placement are available. For a job-matching program, please go to [www.illinoiskillsmatch.com](http://www.illinoisskillsmatch.com).

**Apprenticeship Information Center:** Detailed information about apprenticeships is available at the IDES center. Staff can assist interested individuals with deciding which trades would best be suitable, and will identify when those trade unions will be accepting applications. Up to three apprenticeship applications may be made right at the IDES center.

# WorkNet-NORTHWEST EDUCATION TO CAREERS PARTNERSHIP (ETC)

The ETC provides students the opportunity to interact with various business and industry professionals in the office, in the store, in the plant, in the field. And to get a much better "feel" about what career is right for them. This personal insight also helps maximize a student's education. Once they see the connection between academic knowledge and real-world situations, their motivation to learn increases.

The ETC is an opportunity for business to share its professional expertise and experience with students who have the interest and aptitude to succeed. Workplace tours, job shadowing, internships and career fairs go a long way toward reducing the cost of employee recruitment and training while helping to prepare students for productive, lifelong careers. Employers inform school counselor and teachers about current industry standards and help to integrate academic curriculum with workplace requirements.

Opportunities available to students through the ETC include:

- Job-In-Sight
- Dual Credit Classes
- Career Advisors
- Career Expo
- Employer Partners
- Career Shadowing
- Career Treks

**Job-In-Sight:** This is an opportunity for students find summer employment and learn job readiness skills. Students can attend a 30-minute workshop to help prepare them for the world of work and have access to hundreds of job openings in the Northwest suburbs. This is free to any student in the Northwest suburbs.

**Career Shadowing:** High School students explore the world of work through a one-on-one shadowing experience with a local employer.

**Career Treks:** Career Treks are opportunities for groups of students to learn about careers and the world of work through visits to selected sites in business and industry.

**Dual Credit Classes:** When there is sufficient interest across the region, the Career Partnership works with member high schools and Harper College to create vocational courses open to students across the region.

Classes include high school and college credit. Past offerings included:

- Building Trades
- Heating and Air Conditioning
- Law Enforcement
- Nursing Assistant
- Fire Science
- Cosmetology
- Electronics
- Fashion Merchandising
- Graphic Arts
- Food Service Management

Career Expo: This annual spring event provides opportunities for thousands of area high school and college students to become aware of available careers and to gain information about job availability and desired skills and knowledge.

Employer Partners: Through flyers, brochures, personal contacts, and cooperation with local and regional Chambers of Commerce, the ETC works to recruit employer partners who are willing to:

- Give classroom career presentations
- Help develop curriculum or skill standards
- Invite teachers to employee training seminars
- Consult for project-based learning
- Arrange job shadowing experiences
- Speak at career days/fairs
- Provide internships
- Inform educators about industry practices and workplace skill requirements
- Hire teachers for summer work
- Donate equipment
- Host company facility tours
- Be a mentor
- Have students use company facilities and/or equipment

Career Advisors: Each high school has a person who is specifically able to help students locate career- shadowing opportunities. The career advisor and the student arrange these experiences with employers. The experiences are unique and are designed to reflect each student's interests.

## **WorkNet-Workforce Development**

The Workforce Development serves as a facilitator for programs and service provided through partnerships with business, state agencies, local elected officials, the education community and social services organizations. Services available include:

- Job postings and talent banks
- Tuition voucher programs
- Grant scholarships for graduating seniors
- Resume assistance
- Layoff assistance
- Networking opportunities
- transitional employment
- summer training and employment

## **WorkNet -William Rainey Harper College (847-758-2372)**

### **As a WorkNet partner, Harper College:**

- Provides information about all Harper programs and services
- Provides assistance with applications, registration and financial aid options
- Makes referrals to appropriate on-campus services
- Provides assistance to NAFTA/TRA clients with study plans and contracts
- Submits and maintains Harper College career programs on WIA State Provider List
- Makes referrals to other WorkNet partners for services
- Makes/maintains contacts with area employers
- Provides information to clients wishing to pursue self-directed career search
- Provides informational materials, including books, brochures and videos, on career topics
- Provides free seminars and workshops on career topics

## **Other Training Opportunities**

Chicago Job Corps

10 S. Kedzie Ave.

Chicago, IL 60612 773-265-0250

Job Corps is the nation's oldest and most successful federally funded training program for economically disadvantaged youth. The Chicago Job Corps facility is a new 32.5 acre campus located on the southwest side of Chicago. The Job Corps program is designed to give your son or daughter the training and education to become socially and economically productive adults.

The following services are available to eligible individuals:

- Basic educational and GED training.
- Vocational training in bricklaying, business and computer skills, carpentry, electronic assembly, health occupations, hotel/customer service, manufacturing technology, painting and welding.
- Extra curricular activities including arts and crafts, community service, cultural awareness programs, driver education, intramural sports and student government.

## **Military Career Training Opportunities**

(See your local phone directory for listings)

The Military Services provide challenges and offer career-training opportunities for high school graduates. Each high school in Districts 211 and 214 is visited regularly by representatives from the various branches of service. They can provide complete information about the benefits and requirements involved in military enlistment.

Special needs students need to know that entrance into armed forces training is based on rigid standards based on aptitude test scores as well as a physical examination. The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is the test that determines admission and eligibility for military training programs. It is offered in most high schools or may be taken through arrangements with a local military recruiter. No special testing provisions are available.

In addition to full-time military service, opportunities exist in reserve units, university reserve officer training corps (ROTC) programs and military academies. A variety of educational benefit programs can help finance college educations for members of the military. While the training and educational and other benefits provided by the military services are excellent, individuals need to be aware that in time of crises, they may be called to serve on an active duty.

# **EMPLOYMENT**

## **BECOMING A VALUABLE EMPLOYEE**

A major focus of education today is to assist students in making a successful transition from school to work. Students need varying degrees of vocational support and guidance both during and after their high school experience. Assistance might be provided during high school in a pre-vocational setting, a student job-training program, or a competitive community job. The educational system can provide extensive support to maximize student potential. However, parental support and involvement are essential in fostering independent skills that can transfer to the work setting.

Here are some ways to help your student become a valuable employee:

1. Help develop a positive work attitude.
  - a. Teach your student to feel good about work.
  - b. Show pride in your own job.
  - c. Make your student a productive part of the household - assign chores.
  - d. Don't accept sloppy work - work with your student to correct mistakes and improve.
  - e. Emphasize his actions and behavior, rather than just the results.
  - f. Demonstrate your awareness that all levels of work are meaningful and important.
  
2. Provide encouragement in personal development.
  - a. Help your student interpret social situations and get along with others.
  - b. Teach awareness of time.
  - c. Help your student develop a strong but realistic self-image.
  - d. Help your student go as far as possible in school.
  - e. Encourage careful career explorations being careful to address disability related limitations.
  
3. Support growth through work experience.
  - a. At the right time for your student, encourage your student to actively look for work.
  - b. Check for good grooming before your student goes for an interview.
  - c. Help with transportation, if necessary.
  - d. Help your student learn to balance school and work demands.
  - e. Use your family/business contacts to help your student find work.
  - f. Be aware of community resources including government programs.
  - g. Help your student identify strengths and encourage his abilities
  - h. Be supportive through encouragement and listening.

## VOCATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

There are various terms and levels of vocational supports available for individuals with disabilities. The following lists the type of employment, the level of support given and area agencies that offer this service. The list starts with minimal assistance and support to the most extensive intervention.

**Competitive Employment** - is employment obtained in the real world of work. These agencies offer direct placement services with some job coaching assistance. Contact the Office of Rehabilitation Services who authorizes services.

Anixter Center Northwest  
825 E. Golf Road  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005  
(847)228-6180

WorkNet Northern Cook County  
723 West Algonquin Road  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005

Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)  
715 W. Algonquin  
Suite A  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005  
(847) 758-3483

Jewish Vocational Services  
1250 Radcliffe Road  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089  
(847) 392-8205

Workforce Development  
Council  
2604 E. Dempster, Suite  
502 Des Plaines, IL 60016  
(847) 699-9040 ext. 158

**Supported Employment** - is obtained and maintained in the real world of work with more extensive assistance of a job coach. This person is usually an employee of a vocational agency receiving funding by the Department of Rehabilitation Services. The purpose of the job coach is to help the disabled individual obtain and maintain successful employment and provides follow-up for an extended period (usually up to 18 months maximum). The job coach would work intensively in the initial job start-up by providing supervision, feedback, and simple job accommodations for the new employee. It is the expectation of SEP that the disabled individual will be able to successfully maintain employment with minimum job coach intervention after 18 months.

Anixter Center  
825 E. Golf Road  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005  
(847)228-6180

Alexian Brothers Northwest Mental Health  
800 Biesterfield Road  
Elk Grove Village, 60007  
(847) 952- 7460

Avenues to Independence  
1841 Busse Hwy.  
Des Plaines, IL 60016  
(847) 299-9720

Countryside Association for the Handicapped  
21154 Shirley Road  
Palatine, IL 60074  
(847) 438-8855

**Sheltered Workshop** - is a program within a facility that offers vocational services for moderate to severely disabled individuals who are not ready or able to sustain competitive employment. These facilities usually have sub-contracted work with area businesses to do basic work tasks that are routine in nature. Clients are paid an hourly wage on a piece rate basis. (The more work completed, the higher the hourly rate.)

Most workshops offer habilitation or developmental training with a focus in increasing independence in daily living skills or community involvement (such activities would include instruction in self care, budgeting, community volunteer work, crafts, etc.)

Workshops receive funding through the Office of Developmental Disabilities. There is a fee for programs that can vary greatly depending on the availability of state funded slots. Some workshops offer limited transportation service for a fee.

Most workshops also offer a supported employment program (previously described) where participants are placed in jobs in the community. The ORS provides the funding for SEP therefore individuals must apply for and be accepted into the ORS before starting a SEP program offered at a sheltered workshop. The ORS does not pay for participation in a sheltered workshop. Families could pay for programs through SSI benefits, Supported Living Services, funding, home-based support services, or their own income.

Avenues to Independence  
1841 Busse Hwy.  
Des Plaines, IL 60016  
847-299-9720

Clearbrook Center  
2800 Central  
Road Rolling  
Meadows, IL 60008  
847-632-0700

Countryside Center  
21154 W. Shirley Road  
Palatine, IL 60074  
847-438-8799

## **THE STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES FACT SHEET**

State of Illinois • Department of Human Services • Office of Rehabilitation Services

*Description:* The Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) can be thought of as the port of entry or gatekeeper to a wide range of vocational services for adults with disabilities. Typically, DRS can open a case for a high school student with a disability at age 15 years. The Transitional Specialist (DRS representative) monitors the student's progress in their academic and vocational programs during the last high school years. During the last semester, DRS can begin to purchase vocational services and programs as the student transitions into adult services.

The Office of Rehabilitation Services (DRS) and it is designed to assess, plan, develop and provide the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) services to eligible individuals with disabilities, consistent with their strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, interests and informed choice. By providing services in this way, DRS enables individuals with disabilities to prepare for and engage in gainful employment.

*Application For Services:* High school staff usually initiates a referral to DRS for high school students perceived as needing vocational support during and after high school. Transition Specialists are often invited to attend the student's annual review and meet with the parents and the student soon after the referral to discuss DRS services and complete the application paperwork. Parents or students can also initiate a referral to O DRS as well. DRS should determine eligibility within 60 days of the application. Documentation of the disability(s) is necessary before DRS can open a case and the person can receive services.

**Receiving Services:** The counselor gathers as much information as possible about the individual's work history, Education and training, abilities and interests, rehabilitation needs, and possible career goals. In gathering the information, the counselor will first look at existing information, so it is important for an individual to bring copies of medical, educational and similar documentation.

Based on the information gathered in this assessment phase of the VR process, an Individual Plan for Employment (IPE) that identifies the individual's desired employment outcome is developed. The IPE also lists, among other things, the steps necessary to achieve the individual's employment outcome, the services needed to help the individual achieve that outcome, and criteria used to determine progress toward the employment services directly to the eligible individual and arranges for other services from providers in the community.

**Developing an IPE:** Once an individual is determined eligible to receive VR services, he or she must develop an IPE. The individual must be given the opportunity to make an informed choice in selecting, among other things, an employment outcome, needed VR services, and providers of those VR services.

**Fees for VR Services:** Based on the individual's available financial resources, DRS may require an eligible individual to help pay for services. Family or student income must be within DRS financial guidelines for certain services. For example, DRS can provide financial assistance for college/trade schools only if the person meets financial guidelines and other criteria.

The following services are available to all eligible individuals, regardless of their financial resources without charge:

- assessments to determine eligibility and VR needs
- job search and placement services and
- vocational counseling, guidance, and referral services
- reasonable accommodations

**Eligible Services:** VR services are those services that an individual may need in order to achieve his/her employment outcome. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- An assessment for determining eligibility and VR needs
- Vocational counseling, guidance, and referral services
- Vocational and other training, including on-the-job training
- Maintenance for additional costs incurred while the individual is receiving certain VR services
- Reader services for individuals who are blind
- Services to assist students with disabilities to transition services from school to work
- Personal assistance services (including training in managing, supervising, and directing personal assistance services) while an individual is receiving VR services
- Supported employment services and
- Job placement service

**Client Assistance Program (CAP):** CAP is available in each State to assist individuals in their relationship with the VR agency (in this case, DRS). If an applicant for, or a recipient of VR services is not satisfied with the services received, or the decisions made by the VR counselor, CAP may be able to help resolve the dispute. Illinois' CAP can be reached by calling 1-800-641-3929 (Voice/TTY), or by writing to the Client Assistance Program, 100 North 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Springfield, IL 62702

## **COMMUNITY SUPPORTS & SERVICES**

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR MORE CHALLENGED INDIVIDUALS**

Parents and students need to know about the resources such as agencies, organizations, and programs that provide support services to individuals with low incident as well as more severe disabilities. The following community services are listed to assist you in your quest for direction and support in the areas of respite care, mental health, visual impairment, hearing impaired, autism, traumatic brain injury, and transportation. In addition you will find a schedule of hotlines and organizations that you may contact for assistance.

## **RESPITE SERVICES**

Respite provides temporary relief for families of handicapped persons through a trained worker to provide maintenance care or behavior management in the home environment. It also provides training and support services to families of handicapped persons.

### **Illinois Respite Programs**

[www.respitelocator.org/istates.htm](http://www.respitelocator.org/istates.htm)

### **Countryside Association for the Handicapped**

(serving No. Cook & Lake Counties)

P.O. Box 664, Barrington, IL 60010

847- 438-8855

Types of Youth Served: Developmental, mental, emotional and physical disabilities.

Primary Services: Short-term care.

Ages of Youth Served: All ages.

### **Glenkirk Respite Care Program**

3504 Commercial

Northbrook, IL 60002

847-272-5111

Primary Services: Short-term care for developmentally disabled persons in their home or in facility when their parents/guardians are away.

### **Misericordia/Heart of Mercy**

6300 N. Ridge Ave.

Chicago, IL 60660

773-973-6300

Primary Services: Short-term respite care Available for children with special needs.

### **Orchard Village**

7670 Marmora

Manor Skokie, IL.

847-967-1800

Primary Services: In-home respite program for developmentally disabled persons.

Ages of Youth Served: 18 years and over

## **SPECIALIZED SERVICES FOR MENTAL HEALTH**

A variety of post secondary support services are available for students and their families. These may include individual, family, and group counseling.

### **The Bridge Youth and Family Services**

721 S. Quentin Rd.,

Palatine, IL 60067

(847) 359-7490

Fax: (847) 359-7525

*and*

1585 N. Rand Road

Palatine, IL 60074

(847) 776-3730

**Services Available:** A community based not-for-profit agency providing services based on a sliding scale related to one's ability to pay. Workshops, group and individual counseling, outreach activities, crisis intervention and family counseling, relating to adolescent and parenting issues are offered as well as a speaker's bureau.

### **Alexian Brothers Behavioral Health Hospital**

1650 Moonlake Blvd

Hoffman Estates, IL 60194

(800) 432-5005

Services Available: Inpatient psychiatric units for children, adolescents and adults; outpatient groups for all populations, chemical dependency unit, psychiatric assessment team, substance abuse program, twenty-four hour access.

### **Kenneth W. Young Centers**

1001 Rohwling Road

Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

(847) 524-8800

Fax (847) 524-8824

Services Available: A community based agency offering a wide range of group and individual support services.

Payment is on a sliding scale.

### **Northwest Community Hospital**

800 W. Central Road

Arlington Hts., IL 60005

(847) 618-1000

TDD: (847) 618-4002

Fax: (847) 618-4139

Web: [www.nch.org](http://www.nch.org)

Services available: Inpatient psychiatric services, adolescent and adult outpatient groups.

Requirements: Medical Insurance

**Alexian Brothers Northwest Mental Health**

1616 N. Arlington Heights Road  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004  
(847) 952-7460  
Intake: (847) 392-2047  
Fax (Arlington Hts): (847) 259-5771

**Omni Youth Services**

1111 Lake Cook Rd.  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089  
(847) 353-1500  
Fax: (847) 541-0228

Web: [www.omniyouth.org](http://www.omniyouth.org)

Services Available: Individual, family and group counseling; specifically children between 11-18; 24 hour crisis intervention; workshops and speaker's bureau dealing with mental health issues; youth advocate program for teenagers.

**Salvation Army (Central Intake)**

1616 N. Arlington Hts. Rd.  
Arlington Hts., IL 60004  
(847) 392-0265  
Fax: (847) 392-0274

Services Available: Individual, marital, family counseling; sliding fee scale; concrete information and referral services available.

Requirements: Live in Palatine or Wheeling Townships.

**Schaumburg Family Counseling Center**

217 S. Civic Dr.,  
Schaumburg, IL 60193  
(847)524-1505  
Fax:(847)524-2201

Services Available: Marriage and family counseling.

**Jewish Family and Community Services-Northwest Suburban**

1250 Radcliffe Rd., Suite 206  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089  
(847) 392-8820  
Fax:(847)392-3221

Services Available: Family counseling, individual counseling, crisis intervention, group counseling, and teen discussion groups.

**Access to Care**

2225 Enterprise Drive Suite 2504  
Westchester, IL 60154

"Can't afford to see a Doctor" Access to Care can help.

A family income of less than \$ 30,300 or less for a family of four.

Includes Medicare and Public Aid. (708)531-0680

Fees: Sliding Scale Requirements: Live in Township

## **Thresholds**

Web: [www.thresholds.org](http://www.thresholds.org)

Services available: Individual or group therapy, medication monitoring and training, crisis intervention, case management, vocational rehabilitation, job placement, on- and off-site job support, socialization activities and residential programming.

- **Thresholds Young Adult Program**

4219 N. Lincoln Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60618  
(773) 472-9802

- **Thresholds North**

2700 N. Lakeview Rd.  
Chicago, IL 60614  
(773)281-3800

- **Thresholds South**

734 W. 47th St.  
Chicago, IL 60609  
(773) 536-8400

## **Youth and Family Services of Elk Grove Township**

401 W. Golf Road  
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056  
(847)981-0373  
Fax:(847)981-0376

Services Available: Counseling with families, children 0-20; speaker's bureau mainly relating to parenting issues; drop-in center; Challenge Program, outdoor adventure education; involvement with Youth Employment of Elk Grove.

# **VISUALLY IMPAIRED/BLIND SERVICES**

## **American Foundation for the Blind**

401 N. Michigan Blvd. Suite 308  
Chicago, IL  
(312)245-9961  
Fax:(312)245-9965

Services: Research and education agency that provides information and consultation.

## **Blind Association for Information and Referral**

7020 N. Tahoma Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60646  
(773) 583-4838

Services: Provides information, publications, technology support; organization for blind people.

**Blind Service Association**

17 N. State Street  
Chicago, IL 60602-3315  
(312)236-0808  
Fax:(312)236-8679

Services: Tapes materials for students and professionals, provides face-to-face readers at their site, on the job or at a university. Fee: \$.60 per tape if kept/otherwise on loan a year.  
Locations: Chicago, Skokie, Glen Ellyn, and Whitney Young (Chicago)

**Bureau of Blind Services – Department of Human Services (DHS)****Rolling Meadows, IL**

(847)253-6210  
Fax: (847) 253-2997

**Downers Grove, IL**

(630)495-1652  
Fax: (630) 495-9089

**Arlington Heights, IL 60005**

715 W. Algonquin  
(847) 758-3483

Services Available: Field services consist of vocational counselors who work with adults who are blind or visually impaired in order to provide adjustment training and counseling and/or evaluation and training.

**Canine Companions for Independence**

P.O. Box 41  
Woodstock, IL 60098  
(847)816-7360  
T.F. (800) 572-BARK (2275)  
Fax:(847)574-7512

<http://www.caninecompanions.org/regions/northcentral/chicago>

Services: Provides assistance dogs to those people with developmental or physical disabilities.

**Chicago Lighthouse for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired**

1850 W. Roosevelt Rd.  
Chicago, IL 60608  
(312)666-1331 (voice)  
(312) 666-8874 (TDD)  
Fax:(312)243-8539

Web: [www.chicagolighthouse.org](http://www.chicagolighthouse.org)

*Services Available:* Non-profit rehabilitation agency providing an array of fourteen programs and six support services for people who are blind, visually impaired or multi-disabled.

*Programs Include:* Vocational Evaluation, Training and Job Placement, Developmental/Educational Programs/Independent Living Training, and Clinical Patient Care. Support Services Include: Advocacy; Public Education and Information and Referral.

**Deicke Center for Visual Rehabilitation**

219 E. Cole Ave.  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
(630)690-7115  
Fax: (630) 690-9037  
Web: [www.deicke.org](http://www.deicke.org)  
[info@deicke.org](mailto:info@deicke.org)  
Services: Evaluation

**Guild for the Blind**

180 N. Michigan Ave. 17th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60601  
(312)236-8569  
Fax: (312)236-8128  
Web: [www.guildfortheblind.org](http://www.guildfortheblind.org)

Services Available: The Guild transcribes Braille and job-related small projects, a boutique of aids and appliances; educational and informational seminars; and publishes a monthly newsletter.

**Hadley School for the Blind**

700 Elm St.  
Winnetka, IL 60093  
(847)446-8111  
T.F. (800) 323-4238  
Fax: (847)446-9916  
Web: [www.hadlev/school.org](http://www.hadlev/school.org)

Services Available: Correspondence school provides secondary, post-secondary and leisure-time courses on an international basis. Catalog available.

Fee: None

**Illinois Center for Rehabilitation and Training (ICRE/WOOD)**

1151 S. Wood St.  
Chicago, IL 60612  
(312)633-3520  
Fax (312) 633-3805

**Illinois Eye Institute Illinois College of Optometry**

3241 S. Michigan Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60616  
(312)949-7400  
Fax: (312)949-7660  
Web: [www.ico.edu](http://www.ico.edu)  
Services: Evaluation

**Illinois Library Services for the Blind & Physically Impaired**

1055 W.Roosevelt Rd.

Chicago, IL 60608

1-800-424-9100

Services Available: Library providing materials to print statewide in Braille for disabled persons or on tape as well as supplying the talking book machines and cassette players on which to play them.

Fee: None

**Illinois Parents of the Visually Impaired (IPVI)**

P.O. Box 7477

Springfield, IL 62791-7477

(708) 787-9728

Fax: (708) 357-8487

Mailto:wjb3(a)ihgp.att.com

Services: Support, information and services to parents of visually impaired or blind children throughout Illinois.

**Naperville Area Transcribing for the Blind**

25 S. Washington St.

Naperville, IL 60540

(630) 357-9464

Fax: Same as the telephone number

Services: Will do leisure reading, articles, letters handouts; prepares Braille texts for the State of Illinois.

Fee: \$.35 per page if proof read; \$.10 per page if not.

**National Federation of the Blind of Illinois**

(217)245-7722

(773) 583-4838

<http://www.nfbillinois.org>

Services: Offers scholarships, advocates for customer of the Office of Rehabilitation Service, assists parents through the IEP process, helps train newly blinded persons, etc.

**Northwestern University Library -Public Services**

1935 Sheridan Road

Evanston, IL 60208

(847)491-7632

(847) 491-8305

[Http://www.library.northwestern.edu/services/vision.html](http://www.library.northwestern.edu/services/vision.html) Services: Facilities and equipment for visually impaired people, book paging, general library orientation.

**Recordings for the Blind & Dyslexic**

18 S. Michigan Ave. Suite 806

Chicago, IL 60603

(312)236-8715

Fax: (312) 236-8719

Also: 9612C W. 143rd

Orland Park, IL 60462

(708)349-9356

Web: [www.rfbd.org](http://www.rfbd.org)

**Talking Book Center (TBC)**

Harold Washington Library Center - Fifth Floor - Room 5N7

400 South State Street

Chicago, IL 60605

(312) 747-4001

T.F. (800) 757-4654

Fax:(312)747-1609

[Http://www.chipublib.org/003cpl/irlbph/cpltbc.html](http://www.chipublib.org/003cpl/irlbph/cpltbc.html)

**Talking Book and Braille Service**

400 E. Washington

Springfield, IL 62701

(217) 782-9435

TDD: 800-665-5576

Fax: (217)782-8261

[sruda@ilsos.net](mailto:sruda@ilsos.net)

**Voices of Vision Talking Book Center**

127 S. First St.

Geneva, IL 60134

800-227-0625

Fax: (630) 208-0399

Web: <http://dupagels.lib.il.us/pages/voices.html>

[kodean@dupagels.lib.il.us](mailto:kodean@dupagels.lib.il.us)

**Woodlake Tech**

650 W. Lake St.

Chicago, IL 60661

(312)276-6566

T.F. (800)253-4391

Fax:(312)655-8615

Web: [www.woodlaketec.com](http://www.woodlaketec.com)

Services: Assistive technology & devices services.

# HEARING IMPAIRED SERVICES

## **ANIXTER CENTER**

6610 N. Clark Street

Chicago, IL 60626

Phone: Voice: 773-973-7900

TDD: 773-973-2180

FAX: 773-973-5268

General Purpose: To assist people to live and work successfully in the community - through quality vocational, residential and educational options; substance abuse prevention and treatment; employment services; health care; advocacy.

## **CENTER ON DEAFNESS**

3444 Dundee Road

Northbrook, IL 60062

Phone: Voice: 847-559-0110

TDD: 847-559-9493

General Purpose: To serve the needs of the deaf and hard of hearing community, and to provide services which facilitate each individual to achieve maximum social, emotional, intellectual and creative growth and development.

## **SCOTT NOLAN CENTER**

555 Wilson Lane

Des Plaines, IL 60016

Phone: TTY: (847) 768-5945

Voice: (847) 768-5943

General Purpose: To provide inpatient psychiatric treatment for deaf or hard of hearing children, adolescents and adults.

## **SERVICE RESOURCE CENTER**

3444 Dundee Road

Northbrook, IL 60062

Phone: V/TTY (847) 559-0110

TDD/Voice: 800-550-4772 (24 hour helpline)

[isrc@interaccess.com](mailto:isrc@interaccess.com)

General Purpose: Resources for children who are deaf or hard of hearing and exhibit behavioral disorders

TDD: 847-559-9493

TDD/Voice 24 hour help/Crisis line: 800-550-4772

## **JEWISH FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES**

5150 Golf Road

Skokie, IL 60077

Phone: Voice: 847-568-5200

TDD: 847-568-5240

[www.J.V.F.org](http://www.J.V.F.org)

General Purpose: Family counseling, Community Services

## **ILLINOIS MASONIC BEHAVIORAL SERVICE-ADVOCATE SERVICE**

938 W. Nelson

Chicago, IL 60657

Phone: Voice: 773-769-6200

TTY: 773-296-3737

FAX: 773-296-3226

General Purpose: To help deaf and hard of hearing persons and their families resolve individual and family problems.

## **THRESHOLD'S BRIDGE FOR THE DEAF**

4814 N. California

Chicago, IL 60625

Phone: Voice: 773-989-8568 South - Kiley House

Phone: Voice: 773-924-9833 TTY: 773-924-0930

General Purpose: To create the opportunity for deaf adults with serious and persistent mental illness to live a life of dignity and independence.

## **INFORMATION AND REFERRAL**

Chicago Area Interpreter Referral Service (CAIRS)

150 N. Wacker Dr, Suite 1310

Chicago, IL 60606

V: 312-895-4300

TTY: 312-895-4320

Fax: 312-895-4313

[www.cairs.net](http://www.cairs.net)

## **Chicago Hearing Society (CHS)**

2001 N. Clybourn Ave. 2nd Floor

Chicago, IL 60614-4036

V: 773-248-9121 X311, 312

TTY: 773-248-9174

Fax: 773-248-9173

[chsinterp@anixter.org](mailto:chsinterp@anixter.org)

[www.chicagohearingsociety.org](http://www.chicagohearingsociety.org)

General purpose: To serve as the initial point of contact for students, parents and as the coordination center for deaf and hard of hearing/behavior disordered children.

## **DEAF RELAY**

Dial 711 for Deaf persons and persons who are not deaf

Phone: Voice: (800) 526-0857

TTY: (800) 526-0844

General Purpose: Telephone interpretation service

## **VIDEO RELAY SERVICES**

[www.sprintrelayonline.com](http://www.sprintrelayonline.com)

[www.relay.att.com](http://www.relay.att.com)

## **ACCESS LIVING of METROPOLITAN CHICAGO**

115 W. Chicago Ave.

Chicago, IL 60610

Phone: Voice: 312-253-7000

TTY: 312-253-7002

Fax: 312-253-7001

[generalinfo@accessliving.org](mailto:generalinfo@accessliving.org)

Provides a variety of services, including advocacy, peer counseling, assistance, information and referral, education and recreation.

## **HEARING IMPAIRED SERVICES-LEGAL**

### **Cook County Court Interpreters Office**

2650 S. California Avenue

Chicago, IL 60608

Phone: Voice: 773-869-3210

TTY: 773-869-3213

Fax: 773-869-3242

### **Lake County Court Interpreters**

18 N. County Street

Waukegan, IL 60085

Phone: Voice: 847-377-3600

TTY: 847-360-2975

Fax: 847-249-8442

[www.19thcircuitcourt.state.il.us](http://www.19thcircuitcourt.state.il.us)

### **IL Attorney General's Office Disabled Persons Advocacy Div.**

- 500 South 2nd Street

Springfield, IL 62706

Phone: Voice: 217-782-5021

TDD: 217-785-2771

- 100 W. Randolph

Chicago, IL 60601

Phone: Voice: 312-814-7123

TDD: 312-814-3374

### **IL Guardianship & Legal Advocacy Commission**

421 E. Capitol Avenue, Ste. 205

Springfield, IL 62701

Phone: Voice: 217-785-1540

TDD: 312-793-5937

312-793-5900 (Chicago)

9511 Harrison Ave. FA101

DesPlaines, IL 60016

708-294-4264 (Chicago suburbs)

Fax: 847-294-4263

**Pro Bono Center for Disabilities**

710 N. Lake Shore Drive  
Chicago, IL 60611  
Phone: Voice: 312-908-4463  
TTY: 312-908-8705

**Equip for Equality**

20 N. Michigan, Suite 300  
Chicago, IL 60602  
Phone: Voice: 312-341-0022  
TTY: 312-588-0005  
Fax: 312-341-0295  
T.F. 800-537-2632  
TTY T.F. 800-610-2779  
[www.equipforequality.org](http://www.equipforequality.org)

## **HEARING IMPAIRED SERVICES -TDD CRISIS LINES**

**Aids Hotline (Illinois):** 800-243-2437  
TTY/TDD: 800-782-0423  
**National Aids Hotline:** 800-232-4636

**Constance Morris House (Shelter for Battered Women):**  
708-485-0069  
Say, "Just need to someone to talk to"

**DuPage County Health Dept.** (24 hrs.): 630-627-1700  
TDD: 630-932-1447

**IL Service Resource Center** (24 hrs.): 800-550-4772  
TTY: 847-768-5945

**McHenry County Crisis Line** (24 hrs.): 800-892-8900

**Narcotics Anonymous** (for all addictions): 708-848-4884

**Nineline –**

Crisis intervention and referral: 800-999-9915 (3 to 7 p.m.)  
Other times use relay service at 800-999-9999

# AUTISM SUPPORT SERVICES

## **Illinois Center for Autism**

548 S. Ruby Lane  
Fairview Heights, IL 62208-2614  
(618)398-7500 Fax. (618)394-9869  
[www.illinoiscenterforautism.org](http://www.illinoiscenterforautism.org)

## **Autism Society of Illinois, NW Suburban Chapter**

Schaumburg Township Meeting Hall  
1 Illinois Blvd.  
Hoffman Estates, IL 60194  
630-523-1390  
[www.autismillinois.com](http://www.autismillinois.com)

The Autism Society of Illinois (ASI) is the state chapter of the nationally recognized Autism Society of America (ASA). It is a not-for-profit, statewide organization of parents, professionals and other interested people working together for the benefit of children and adults with autism. Since its inception in 1976, ASI has been the central source of support and information for parents and children with autism.

## **Little Friends**

140 N. Wright St.  
Naperville, IL 60540  
(630) 355-6533  
Fax:(630)355-3176

# TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY - SUPPORTIVE AGENCIES

## **Res-Care Premiere-Downers Grove**

1040 Robey Ave.  
Downers Grove, IL 60516  
(630) 969-9188 or  
1-800-666-2454

## **Rehabilitation Achievement Center Mentor Network**

1055 E. 175th St. Suite 101  
Homewood, IL 60430  
(708) 957-8326 or (888) 308-8325

## **Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital**

26 W. 171 Roosevelt Rd.  
P.O. Box 795  
Wheaton, IL 60189  
(630) 462-4000

**New Focus**

2032 N. Clybourne  
Chicago, IL 60614  
(773) 929-8200 ext. 337

**Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago at Alexian Brothers Medical Center**

800 Biesterfield Road  
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007  
(847) 640-5600  
TDD (847) 956-5116

**Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago Loyola University Health System**

2160 S. First Ave.  
Maywood, IL 60153  
(708) 216-0560

**Rehabilitation Achievement Center Mentor Network**

7501 S. Quincy  
Willowbrook, IL 60521  
(630) 455-5000  
888-308-8326

**Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago North Shore Day Rehab Center**

755 Skokie Blvd.  
Northbrook, IL 60062  
(847) 272-7426

# TRANSPORTATION

**RTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION****ADA Paratransit Line**

1-312-663-4357  
TTY: 312-913-3122

Individuals with severe mental or physical disabilities can acquire a special user pass for the RTA. Anyone interested in acquiring this special pass must call the above telephone number, [www.rtachicago.com](http://www.rtachicago.com)

**METRA TRAIN LINES**

(312)322-6777  
TDD: 312-322-6774  
<http://www.metrarail.com>

**Union Pacific Northwest Line**

Arlington Heights (847) 253-6365  
Mt. Prospect (847) 253-5839  
Palatine (847) 359-0043

**RTA Travel Information**

(847)836-7000

TTY: 312-836-4949

**LOCAL CAB COMPANIES****American Taxi**

834 E. Rand Rd.

Mt. Prospect, IL (847)253-4411

**303 Taxi**

709 N. Main

Mt. Prospect, IL (847) 588-0303

**SUBURBAN BUS SYSTEMS**

**Dial-A-Ride** Elk Grove (847)299-6212

TTY: 1-800-504-7689

**Dial-A-Ride** Palatine (847)358-6907

**Dial-A-Ride** Schaumburg

825 W. Estes

Schaumburg, IL 60193 (847)352-8097

**Pace Northwest**

900 E. NW Highway, Box 388

Des Plaines, IL 60016

(847) 297-0135

**Pace Internet** [www.pace-bus.com](http://www.pace-bus.com)

Bus Routes

Schedules

Fares

# LEGAL FINANCIAL INSURANCE

## GUARDIANSHIP AND ADVOCACY

Many parents of young adults with severe disabilities are surprised to learn that, after their child reaches adulthood (age 18), they are no longer legal guardians. Guardianship of minor children by their parents is a given, unless taken away by the court; guardianship of any adult must be granted by the court.

Persons without guardians are legally capable of making their own decisions. The fact that parents are not legal guardians may not cause problems for the family; in many

circumstances, most adult service providers will naturally include involved family members in decision-making and planning in any case. However, it is important to realize that, without legal guardianship, parents do not have a legal right to enforce their decisions about their adult child.

Various types of guardianship are as follows:

- **Guardianship:** A guardian is a person who is legally charged with the responsibility of caring for or obtaining care for an individual, and managing the property and rights of that person
- **Conservatorship:** A conservator is appointed through the courts to manage a citizen's financial affairs A conservator is not allowed to make decisions about that citizen's personal life
- **Power of Attorney:** A power of attorney is a written document giving one person the power to act as an "agent" for another person To give Power of Attorney, you must be considered capable of understanding the document
- **Trust:** A trust gives a person or corporation (called the trustee) the right to manage or control property for the benefit of another person (called the beneficiary) A parent or guardian may set up a trust to help provide financial security in the future for a person with a disability.

### **For more information contact:**

#### **Guardianship and Advocacy Commission (IGAC)**

9511 Harrison Room FA-101  
Des Plaines, IL 60016  
(847) 294-4264

#### **The Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission Director of Office of State Guardian (IGAC)**

160 N. LaSalle Suite S-500,  
Chicago, IL 60601  
(312) 793-5900

**IGAC** is the independent state agency that protects and enforces the rights of adults with developmental disabilities, mental illness, or physical disabilities.

**The Office Of State Guardian (OSG)** is appointed guardian "of last resort" for adults with disabilities who are unable to make or communicate their own personal or financial decisions If no family member or friend is able to serve as guardian, the court will appoint the OSG.

## **ESTATE PLANNING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

The below listed area attorneys and estate planners are experienced in assisting families with a son or daughter who has a disability to develop comprehensive life plans including: wills, special needs trusts, guardianship, advocacy, balancing private and government benefits.

#### **Family Benefit Solutions**

1110 W. Lake Cook Rd., Suite 150  
Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60089-1995  
(847) 279-8506

**Brian Rubin & Associates**

1110 West Lake Cook Rd  
Suite 165  
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089  
(847) 279-7999

**Ehlert Financial Group**

103 Schelster Rd.  
Lincolnshire, IL 60069  
(847)522-8080 (in Illinois)

**Life's Plan, Inc.**

2801 Finley Road  
Downers Grove, IL 60515  
(630) 628-7189  
[www.Lifesplaninc.org](http://www.Lifesplaninc.org)

**Protected Tomorrows Inc.**

103 Schelster Road.  
Lincolnshire, IL 60069  
(847) 522-8086  
[www.protectedtomorrows.com](http://www.protectedtomorrows.com)

## **ADVOCACY AND LEGAL SERVICES**

**Family Resource Center on Disabilities**

20 E Jackson Suite 300  
Chicago, IL 60604  
(312)939-3513 Fax (312)939 7297  
Fees None

*Services Provided:* Advocacy training for family members of disabled individuals

**Guardianship and Advocacy Commission**

160 N LaSalle St Suite S500  
Chicago, IL 60601  
(312)793-5900 Fax (312)793-4311  
Web [www.stateil.us/gac/](http://www.stateil.us/gac/)

Fees None

*Services Provided:* Advocacy services to developmentally disabled adults and minors and their families who feel they are not receiving the public services to which they are entitled.

**Office of Illinois Attorney General**

Disabled Persons Division State of Illinois Bldg  
100 W Randolph 10th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60601  
1-312-814-7123  
Fees None

*Services Provided:* Investigate consumer complaints primarily related to accessibility for the disabled

Acts as facilitator in obtaining accessibility for the disabled population

**Equip for Equality**

20 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 300

Chicago, IL 60602

(312)341-0022

[www.equipforequality.org](http://www.equipforequality.org)

Fees None

*Services Provided:* Assists people with a variety of disability-related problems,

Such as:

- Abuse, neglect or financial exploitation in the home, in any public or private program or any residential setting
- Denial of their right to make personal decisions, including opposing appointment of a guardian
- Disputes about services or benefits from a public or private agency (including vocational rehabilitation, home services, education, treatment or habitation)
- Discrimination based upon disability • Provides information on disability rights and referral to all individuals and organization

**Client Assistance Program (CAP)**

100 N. 1st St., 1st Floor

Springfield, IL 62702

1-800-641-3929

*Service Provided:* Advocacy services for people, regardless of age, wanting or receiving services under the Federal Rehabilitation Act CAP offers legal services specific to representing clients with complaints regarding facilities/actions of the Department of Human Services-Office of Rehabilitation Services

**P.A.C.T., Inc.**

555 E Butterfield Rd

Lombard, IL 60148

(630) 960-9700

Fax (630)960-9823

**Illinois Planning Council On Developmental Disabilities**

830 S. Spring St.

Springfield, IL 62704

(217) 782-9696

**Dupage Center for Independent Living**

739 Roosevelt Road

Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

(630) 469-2300

Fax (630)469-2606

*Services Provided:* Focusing on advocacy and empowerment while providing information and referral services, the Center maintains lists of people looking for roommates And/or interested in shared housing The Center provides a personal assistance program to help the disabled help themselves in their own homes Services are also offered for the hearing impaired.

**The Arc of Illinois**  
18207 A. Dixie Hwy.  
Homewood, IL 60430  
(708)206-1930  
Fax: (708)206-1171

**Illinois Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities**  
PO Box 5417 Springfield, IL

**Illinois House of Representatives Legislative Information**  
800-252-6300

## **POST HIGH SCHOOL INSURANCE CONCERNS**

Insurance coverage after a student graduates from high school is an important issue for all families to address. For the student with special needs this can be critical if not planned for and dealt with in the proper manner. The State of Illinois Insurance Code (215 ILCS 5/3 566), provides legal guidance for obtaining possible extended coverage of health insurance. This statute allows parents to explore continued coverage for their young adult's benefits under their family policy beyond the customary age limits. To qualify under this act, the parent must notify their insurance carrier prior to their dependent's reaching the standard age of termination. Eligibility will be determined based on your insurance provider's definition of disability and level of dependency. You may contact the Department of Insurance by calling or writing at:

**Illinois Department of Insurance**  
320 W Washington St  
Springfield, IL 62767-0001  
Phone (217) 782-4515  
Fax (217) 782-5020  
TDD (217) 524-4872  
Web [www.ins.stateil.us/ins/mmcchart.htm](http://www.ins.stateil.us/ins/mmcchart.htm)

**Illinois Department of Insurance**  
100 W Randolph  
Suite 15-100  
Chicago, IL 60601  
Phone (312) 814-5435  
Fax (312) 814-5435  
TDD (312) 814-2603

## SAMPLE LETTER

The format in the sample letter below may be used to contact the family's insurer to establish eligibility under this statute.

=====  
Date

Name of Insurance Company  
Address  
City, State, Zip

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is being written to advise you that according to the Illinois Insurance Code (215 ILCS 5/356b); our son/daughter is legally qualified to receive extended coverage for medical benefits. This statute allows (son's/daughter's name) to maintain his/her benefits. under our family policy beyond the standard age limits.

This letter serves as our written notice to you regarding our intent to be included under the provisions of Section 356b. Enclosed please refer to a copy of this statute and documentation of (son's/daughter's name) qualifying handicapping condition.

Yours truly,  
(Insured's signature)

(Insured's printed name)

Policy # \_\_\_\_\_

Attn: Legal Dept

=====

Some families may also need to inform their insurance company regarding the covered student's continuation of his/her education at a college or other appropriate educational setting. Insurance policies may have a provision that requires the individual pursuing post high school education to be a full-time student. This usually involves carrying a minimum of twelve semester hours of credit each term in order to qualify for coverage under the family health policy. Some colleges and universities may consider a student as fulltime even if less than twelve semester hours are carried, if that student can show a lesser class-hour load is a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

# AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The purpose of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) is to bring individuals who have disabilities in to mainstream American life Disability is defined as "physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities of such individual". Major life activities are things that the average person can perform with little or no difficulty such as walking, seeing, hearing, learning or working, etc. The ADA is broken down into four major areas or titles as follows:

## **Title I - EMPLOYMENT**

Employers with 15 or more employees may not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities. Employers must reasonably accommodate the disabilities of qualified applicants or employees, including modifying their workstation and equipment, unless undue hardship would result.

The person must have a record of a substantially limiting impairment to be considered disabled under the ADA. He or she must also be able to perform the essential functions of the job, with or without reasonable accommodation. Complaints may be filed with the Equal Opportunity Commission.

## **Title II - PUBLIC SERVICES**

State and local governments may not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities. Newly constructed state and local government buildings, including transit facilities must be accessible. Alterations to existing state and local buildings must be done in an accessible manner. Restrooms, drinking fountains and telephones must be accessible as well.

## **Title III - PUBLIC ACCOMODATIONS**

Privately operated businesses and not for profit facilities open to the public cannot discriminate against a customer on the basis of disability. This includes restaurants, hotels, malls, museums, and other similar places. Physical barriers in existing public accommodations must be removed. If not, alternative methods of providing services must be offered. Complaints may be filed with the U.S. Dept. of Justice.

## **Title IV - TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Telephone companies must provide telecommunications relay services 24 hours a day for individuals, who are deaf, heard of hearing and speech impaired. TRS is a telephone service that allows people with hearing or speech disabilities to use the phone. Complaints may be filed with the Federal Communications Commission.

# ADDITIONAL ADVOCACY RESOURCES

## **Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center/Great Lakes ADA Center**

1640 W. Roosevelt Rd. #405

Chicago, IL 60608

800-949-4232

[www.adagreatlakes.org](http://www.adagreatlakes.org)

## **Illinois Dept. of Human Services**

Bureau of Accessibility and Workplace Safety

312-793-0034

## SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

The Social Security Administration (SSA) manages two major programs that provide cash benefits based on disability or blindness.

### **SSDI - Social Security Disability Insurance**

(SSDI) provides benefits to disabled or blind individuals who are "insured" by workers' contributions to the Social Security trust fund. These contributions are known as the Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) social security tax. Title II of the Social Security Act authorizes SSDI benefits.

The worker must have worked and paid Social Security taxes for enough years to be covered under Social Security insurance; some of the taxes must have been paid in recent years.

**SSI** - Most high school students have not worked enough work quarters to be eligible for SSDI. The **Supplemental Security Income Program (SSI)** pays monthly benefits to aged, blind, and disabled people (including children under age 18) who have limited income and resources.

For children under 18 years, the parent income and assets are included. If your child is over 18 years, then only his or her income and assets are included. Individuals must have countable resources below 2,000 to qualify for SSI (as of 2004). Many Northwest suburban families often are denied SSI for their child less than 18 years because they have too much assets and income. It may be to your advantage to wait until your child is 18 years of age to apply for **SSI**.

### **Resource Limits for SSI**

Individuals must have countable resources below \$2,000 to qualify for SSI. Couples residing together must have countable resources below \$3,000.

- Social Security excludes many items in determining resource eligibility. Among items that are not counted are:
  - the individual's home (so long as he or she resides in it)
  - household goods and personal effects so long as their total equity value does not exceed \$2,000; and
  - an automobile
- Other criteria include:
  - Be a U.S. citizen or meet the requirements for non-citizens;
  - Be considered medically disabled.

**Definition: (Disability for the Children's SSI Program)**

The welfare law defines children's disability as follows:

- An individual under the age of 18 shall be considered disabled for purposes of this title if that individual has a medically determinable physical or mental impairment which results in marked and severe functional limitations, and which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months; and
- Notwithstanding clause no individual under the age of 18 who engages in substantial gainful activity ... may be considered disabled.

**Application**

A person can apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits by calling the Social Security Administration's toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213. A representative will schedule an appointment for an application to be taken over the phone or at any local Social Security Administration Office. A person can also go to any local office and ask to file an application for disability benefits. Whichever way a person applies, he or she should KEEP COPIES of all documents and forms submitted to SSA. That way, if SSA loses information, a claimant can easily re-submit it.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing can call SSA's toll-free TTY number, 1-800-325-0778. This number operates between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Monday through Friday.

A person who wants to apply for SSI benefits should take the following documents and information to the initial interview:

- Social Security number for child and parents;
- Birth certificate or other evidence of child's date of birth; • Checking and savings account information;
- Names, addresses and phone numbers of any doctors, hospital, clinics, institutions, counselors that have treated child, as well as dates of any treatments;
- Name of child's school, list of teachers and counselors familiar with child's condition, any school records, IEPs, psychological test results, report cards, etc;
- List of current medications;
- Any medical records, lab tests or results, concerning child's condition;
- List of any employment claimant has done in the past 15 years (name and address of employer and type of work performed);
- Copy of W-2 Form (wage and tax statement). Self-employed persons should bring copy of federal tax return for the past year;
- Proof of income and assets (payroll slips, bank books, insurance policies, car registration, burial fund records, and other information about income and assets)
- Mortgage or lease agreements or other documents showing living arrangement.

SSA usually takes about 60-90 days to process applications for disability benefits. The local office collects information from the claimant. The file is sent to the Bureau of Disability Determination Services (BDDS) in Springfield, Illinois. Doctors and nurses who contract with BDDS review the medical records and decide whether the claimant's impairments fall within the SSI definition of disability. The SSA local office sends a

written decision to the claimant advising him or her that SSA has made a favorable or unfavorable decision.

Often many initial applicants are denied SSI, and will want to submit an appeal. An appeal must be filed within 60 days. An excellent source of information is the Social Security Administration website at: [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

**Local Office:**

Social Security Administration  
215 S. Elmhurst Road  
Prospect Heights, IL 60070  
(847) 222-1877  
1-800-772-1213  
TTY: 1-800-325-0778

**Other sources of information:**

Health & Disability Advocate  
205 West Monroe Street, 3rd floor  
Chicago, IL 60606-5013  
(312)223-9600  
[www.hdadvocates.org](http://www.hdadvocates.org)

Illinois Department of Human Services  
Division of Rehabilitation Services  
715 W. Algonquin Rd.  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005-4437  
847-758-3483  
Video Phone Relay: 847-614-2380

## **MEDICAID**

**What is it?**

Medicaid is health insurance for people who are disabled, blind, or aged and are receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. In most states, once a person qualifies for SSI, he or she automatically receives Medicaid. In Illinois, this is not true. There is a separate application process for Medicaid.

**Why is it important?**

Once a child leaves high school and is not a full time college student, parent health insurance may not continue to provide coverage. Often if high school graduates are working, it is on a part time basis so they may not receive health insurance benefits.

In addition, Medicaid is often used to pay for:

**Residential Programs-** Programs for both the developmentally disabled and psychiatric populations usually require the person has Medicaid.

**Day Treatment/Psychosocial Rehabilitation Programs**

**ORS Home Services Program-** In order to access personal care attendant service, an application to Medicaid is required. This is also important for ORS students who are attending college and need this service.

Residential and day programs (such as sheltered workshops) for people with disabilities are converting to a Medicaid waiver payment system. This means that in order to access these programs, applicants must have Medicaid. It is important to apply for both SSI and Medicaid for students who will need these programs once they leave high school.

**Where to apply locally:**

Department of Public Aid  
One Illinois Blvd  
Schaumburg, IL 60194  
(847) 843-1400

**Typical documents to bring when going to the Medicaid appointment:**

- Completed Medicaid application
- Drivers license/photo ID card
- Social Security card
- Birth certificate, school records
- Pay stubs (including school jobs) for the past 2 months
- Child support order.
- SSI check or award letter
- Health insurance policy
- Other sources of money

This list is not all-inclusive so you may want to check with the Medicaid office to see what other documents they may require.

Parents should also check with their insurance carrier to see if their child can continue to receive extended coverage as an **adult child with a disability**. If the insurance will not extend coverage and Medicaid becomes the primary insurance, check with the doctor's office to see if they will accept Medicaid. Unfortunately, few doctors in the suburbs accept Medicaid so it is important to research extended coverage for existing insurance policies.

# ILLINOIS FAMILY ASSISTANCE AND HOME BASED SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAMS

**Description:** *The Home-Based Support Services Program* tailors services to help adults with disabilities live at home. *The Family Assistance Program* makes monthly cash payments to families of children with severe disabilities.

The Illinois Department of Human Services accepts applications and selects as many individual and family participants as funding will allow.

Funds typically are appropriated for the programs during the spring session of the General Assembly. If funding is sufficient to allow enrollment of additional persons, new persons are selected by a random drawing during the summer. If such a drawing is held in a given year, families and individuals whose applications are received by May 31st of that year are eligible.

Persons not selected are notified annually by mail and are asked whether they wish to remain on the waiting list for future funding. If you have responded to such a mailing during the past year, there is no need to reapply.

## **Aid and/or Assistance**

*The Family Assistance Program* pays a monthly stipend to help with the costs of caring for a child (age 17 or younger) with a severe mental disability. Participating families receive approximately \$5,000 to \$7,000 yearly.

*The Home-Based Support Services Program* pays for services to help adults (age 18 or older) become more independent living on their own or with their families. Participating adults are entitled to services worth approximately \$17,000 to \$19,000 per year.

## **Eligibility**

*Eligible disabilities* (These are fully defined in state statute 405 ILCS 80.)

- **Severe autism** (children or adults) - a lifelong disability beginning in early childhood with severe disturbances in social interactions, communication, imaginative activity, and activities and interests.
- **Severe or profound mental retardation** (children or adults) - a lifelong disability that results in a significantly sub-average intellectual functioning (IQ of 40 or below) and a severe or profound impairment in adaptive behavior.
- **Severe and multiple impairments** (children or adults) - all of the following conditions beginning before age 18:
  - A developmental disability that constitutes a substantial handicap attributable to mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism or a similar condition, and is expected to continue indefinitely.
  - Multiple handicaps in physical, sensory, behavioral or cognitive functioning, which constitute a severe or profound impairment.
  - Development substantially less than expected for the age in cognitive, affective or psychomotor behavior.

- **Severe mental illness** (adults) - both of the following:
  - A primary diagnosis of schizophrenia, delusional disorder, schizoid-affective disorder, bipolar affective disorder, atypical psychosis or major depression (recurrent).
  - Functioning substantially impaired in areas such as self-maintenance, social functioning, activities of community living or work skills.

- **Severe emotional disturbance** (children) - both of the following:
  - A primary diagnosis that meets criteria of a mental illness or emotional disturbance with onset in childhood or adolescence. (Not included in this definition are adjustment disorders, mental retardation, autism or other disorders based on physical impairment or alcohol/substance abuse.)
  - Severe long-term functional impairment substantially limiting two or more major life activities such as self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning and social interaction and self-direction.

### **Income Eligibility**

Adults must be eligible for federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Income (SSDI). The household income for the eligible child must be less than \$50,000 per year after deductions. (Look on your Income Tax Form for your family's "taxable income." If the child is a foster child, only his or her income is considered.)

### **Using Payments for Children**

Each participating family decides how to spend the money it receives. Families may use the money for such things as respite care, child care, therapy, medical expenses, family counseling, home remodeling to meet the child's needs or for a special vehicle or other equipment.

### **Purchasing Services for Adults**

Participating adults are linked to a local community agency where a professional helps them select services designed to allow them to stay home, learn new skills, even get a new job. These services might include:

- home health services
- personal care services (help with dressing, etc.)
- training and assistance in self-care (help with learning how to dress, cook meals, etc.)
- rehabilitation services
- services related to finding a job, supported employment • respite care • crisis management

Adults may also use the funds to purchase medicine, nutritional supplements, adaptive equipment, and modifications to make their home more accessible or other items.

# DIVISION OF SPECIALIZED CARE FOR CHILDREN (DSCC)

## **Description**

This Division (DSCC) is an official agency of the State of Illinois. DSCC is supported by state and federal funds for the purpose of helping children with physical problems to obtain necessary specialized medical care and the other services they may require.

## **Eligibility**

Any child in Illinois from birth to 21 years is eligible for preliminary diagnostic services without charge to the parents if a medically eligible condition is indicated. Please contact the agency for more information about this service.

When a child requires special medical treatment, **financial** assistance may be provided if:

- The child has a physical defect, disability or chronic illness that is eligible for DSCC, and
- The parents/guardians are legal residents of Illinois, U.S. citizens and are financially eligible according to the policies of DSCC.

## **Assistance**

Services offered include diagnosis and treatment in an office, clinic, hospital or other special treatment areas. If required, braces, hearing aids and other special appliances can be provided upon recommendation of the specialist. The professional staff of DSCC works with various health care groups and the parents in developing the best program for the child.

Under the DSCC program all services need to be provided by approved specialists, hospitals or other facilities. DSCC may direct the parents and child to specialized care, or parents may already have chosen one of the approved specialists, hospitals or other facilities. Financial assistance may be complete or partial depending on the family's income. Some families may be over income for financial assistance.

## **For more information, contact the DSCC office:**

North Cook County Regional Office  
8609 W. Bryn Mawr  
Suite 202  
Chicago, IL 60631-3524  
773-444-0043  
TDD 773-444-0178  
Fax 773-444-0176  
1-800-924-0623

# ILLINOIS STATE I.D. CARD

## **Secretary of State's Office Driver's License Facility**

1229 Golf Road,  
Schaumburg, IL  
312-793-1010

*Fees:* None for disabled people.

*Services:* Provides State of Illinois picture identification cards

*Requires:* 3 forms of I.D. & Social Security Number

## SELECTIVE SERVICE REGISTRATION

All male students regardless of capability to serve in the military are required to register with the federal Selective Service System within 30 days of their 18th birthday. Young men may visit any U.S. Post Office to fill out a simple registration form asking for name, address, telephone number, social security number and date of birth. When completed, the applicant must show some form of identification to the postal clerk and then sign the card. **Failure to register is a violation of federal law** and could result in the loss of federal benefits the applicant may receive or be entitled to in the future. This includes obtaining financial assistance for college.

## RECREATION & LEISURE

### RECREATION PROGRAMS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

Following is a list of organizations that offer special recreation activities. They offer a variety of opportunities throughout the school year as well as additional programs during the summer. Contact the agencies listed below for program details.

#### **The Center For Enriched Living**

280 Saunders Road  
Riverwoods, IL 60015  
(847) 948-7001  
[www.centerforenrichedliving.org](http://www.centerforenrichedliving.org)

#### **Northwest Suburban Special Recreation Association**

3000 Central Road #205  
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008  
847-392-2848

#### **Center on Deafness**

3444 Dundee Road  
Northbrook, IL  
847-559-0110

**Community Education**  
High School District 214  
2121 S. Goebbert Road  
Arlington Hts., IL 60005  
847-718-7700

**Continuing Education**  
Township H.S. District 211  
1750 S. Roselle Road  
Palatine, IL 60067  
847-755-6720

**ClearBrook East**  
3802 Old Wilke Road  
Rolling Meadows, IL 60008  
847-870-0745

**Special Olympics**  
Participation in Special Olympics can occur through local special education programs, private service organizations or through the local Special Recreation Association.

**Buehler Y.M.C.A.**  
1400 W. Northwest Hwy.  
Palatine, IL 60067  
847-359-2400  
Fax: 847-359-5098  
Web: [www.buehlerymca.org](http://www.buehlerymca.org)

**Lattof Y.M.C.A.**  
300 E. Northwest Hwy.  
Des Plaines, IL 60016  
847-296-3376  
Fax: 847-296-9431  
Web: [www.lattofymca.com](http://www.lattofymca.com)

**Alfred Campanelli Y.M.C.A.**  
300 W. Wise Road  
Schaumburg, IL 60193  
847-891-9622  
Fax: 847-891-8901  
Web: [www.campanellymca.org](http://www.campanellymca.org)

# APPENDIX

## ORGANIZATIONS

**Alcoholics Anonymous**  
847-359-3311

**Al-Anon/Alateen**  
888-425-2666

**American Heart Association**  
312-346-4675

**American Lung Association**  
312-243-2000

**Big Brothers-Big Sisters of Metropolitan Chicago**  
312-427-0637

**Chicago Association of Retarded Citizens**  
312-346-6230

**Coalition of Citizens With Disabilities of Illinois**  
800-433-8848

**Cystic Fibrosis Foundation**  
312-236-4491

**ESNI-Fight for Life**  
(Parent network for and by parents of children with epilepsy)  
847-433-8960

**Family Resource Center on Disabilities**  
312-939-3513 (call for info.)  
800-952-4199

**Illinois Easter Seal Society, Inc.**  
312-726-6200 / 800-221-6827

**Jewish Family and Community Services**  
847-392-8820

**Learning Disabilities Association of Illinois**  
708-430-7532

**Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of America, Inc.**  
312-651-7350  
800-742-6595

**March of Dimes**

312-435-4007

**Muscular Dystrophy Association**

312-254-0632

**National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities**

800-695-0285

**National Down Syndrome Congress**

800-232-6372

**National Spinal Cord Injury Association**

708-352-622

1-800-962-9629

**The Parent's Resource Network**

(instructional tapes and resource staff)

847-675-3555

**Illinois Spina Bifida Association**

1-800-969-ISBA

773-444-0305

**Tourette Syndrome Association**

630-790-8083

877-TSA-IL55

**United Cerebral Palsy of Illinois**

877-550-8274 (Toll free/TTY)

## **INTERNET RESOURCES**

### **DISABILITY INFORMATION**

**www.jobaccess.org - Ability Magazine**

- promotes acceptance of employees with disabilities

**www.accessmagazine.com - ACCESS Magazine**

- hardware and software for the disabled

**www.ataccess.org - Alliance for Technology Access**

- adaptive technology

**www.4women.gov/wwd - Women with Disabilities**

- health issues
- financial issues
- links to supports

**www.wheelchairnet.org - Wheelchairnet**

- wheelchair issues

**www.wdsc.org/disability - US Dept. of Labor: ETA Disability Online**

- employment resources
- state-by-state guide

**www.icdi.wvu.edu/others.htm - Disability Information**

**www.ilr.cornell.edu/library/reference/guides/DW - Disability and the Workplace**

- resource listing

**www.nectas.unc.edu/ - National Early Childhood Technical Assistance System**

- technical assistance consortium

## **EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES**

**www.cyfernet.org/ - Child, Youth and Families Education and Research Network**

**www.collegeview.com/careers/career\_counseling.html - Career Counseling**

- career planning steps

**www.isbe.state.il.us - Illinois State Board of Ed.**

- Education to Careers initiative
- links to other school-to-work sites

## **INDIVIDUAL CAREER PLANNING**

[www.careercc.com](http://www.careercc.com)

[www.quintcareers.com](http://www.quintcareers.com)

[www.resumenet.com/other.html](http://www.resumenet.com/other.html)

[www.StudentCenter.com](http://www.StudentCenter.com)

[www.jobweb.org/catapault/library.htm](http://www.jobweb.org/catapault/library.htm)

# COLLEGE INFORMATION

[www.act.org](http://www.act.org)

[www.kaplan.com](http://www.kaplan.com)

[www.go2collegesolutions.com](http://www.go2collegesolutions.com)

[www.weapply.com](http://www.weapply.com)

[www.campustours.com](http://www.campustours.com)

[www.edworks.com](http://www.edworks.com)

[www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)

[www.utexas.edu/world/univ/alpha](http://www.utexas.edu/world/univ/alpha)

[www.nassp.org/services/commapp.htm](http://www.nassp.org/services/commapp.htm)

[www.collegeaid.com](http://www.collegeaid.com)

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

[www.finaid.org](http://www.finaid.org)

## HOTLINES

### Child Abuse:

- Child Abuse **1-800-25-ABUSE (22873)**

### Crisis:

- AIDS Hotline **1-800-243-2437**
- Community Crisis Center **847-697-2380**
- Elgin Community Crisis Center **847-888-8786**
- In Touch (Sun-Thurs 6PM-10: 30 PM Fri & Sat 6PM-3AM) **312-996-5535**
- Lake County Connection-Crisis Information/Referral **847-377-808**

### Domestic Violence:

- Domestic Violence **800-799-SAFE (7233)**
- Rainbow House **773-762-6611**

### Eating Disorders:

- Eating Disorders (Referral) **847-831-3438**

**Incest Counseling:**

- National Sexual Assault **800-656-4563**

**Pregnancy:**

- Aid for Women (Pregnancy only) **312-621-1100**
- Catholic Charities (Maternity) **312-454-1717**
- Planned Parenthood **312-592-6850**
- Woodfield Crisis Emergency Program (Pregnancy) **847-885-1778**

**Sexual Assault:**

- NW Action Against Rape (24 Hours) **847-228-0990**
- YWCA DuPage Sexual Assault **630-971-3927**

**Shelter:**

- A Safe Place **847-249-4450**
- Catholic Charities Homeless **800-941-8681**
- Friends of Battered Women **800-603-HELP (4357)**
- The Harbour **847-297-8540**
- Shelter Inc., Arlington Hts. **847-255-8060**

**Talkline Support:**

- Kids & Teens Talkline **800-472-8255**
- Span Hotline (24 Hours) **847-824-4454**
- Teens Talkline/Illinois **847-228-8336**
- Youth Crises Hotline **800-448-4663**

## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

**AACH** Association for the Care of Children's Health

**AAMR** American Association for Mental Retardation - An organization concerned with the welfare, education and habilitation of persons with mental retardation and closely related developmental disabilities.

**ABA** Applied Behavior Analysis

**ACDD** Accreditation Council on Developmental Disabilities - Develops standards; surveys agencies to assess compliance with the standards for the provision of quality services; provides accreditation, training, technical assistance and publication of materials to supplement the standards for service.

**ADA** Americans with Disabilities Act

**ADD** Attention Deficit Disorder

**ADHD** Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

**ADL** Activities of Daily Living

**ADP** Alternative Disposition Plan - Developed to extend the allowable timeframe for placement of individuals in nursing homes into more appropriate settings where required.

**AID** Association for Individual Development

**AKA** Also known as

**AMI** Alliance for the Mentally Ill

**ARR** Annual Resident Review

**ARC** Association for Retarded Citizens - An organization that works on local, state, and national levels to promote services, research, public understanding and legislation for people with mental retardation and their families.

**AT** Active treatment

**AV** Active Visions

**CA** Chronological Age

**C&A** Children and Adolescents - Individuals from birth to 17 years of age

**CAI** Computer Assisted Instructions

**CARF** Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities - A national private, nonprofit organization that carries out quality control intermediary functions. The organization establishes and maintains a nation-wide set of standards of quality developed in a participatory fashion.

**CAU** Community Alternatives Unlimited

**CBC** Chicago Behavior Consultants

**CBT** Community-Based Training

**CCA** Child Care Association - Statewide association for Child Care Institutions

**CCU** Case Coordination Unit - Agencies that provide coordination of services including assessment of service need, development of individualized service plan arrangement for service delivery, coordination, advocacy with service provider(s), analysis of service network and follow-up for persons with developmental disabilities.

**CD** Community Development

**CDB** Capital Development Board - Responsible for all construction, repair, and renovation of state buildings and facilities.

**CEC** Council for Exceptional Children

## **CF** Cystic Fibrosis

**CILA** Community Integrated Living Arrangement - A flexible service arrangement for persons with development disabilities or chronic mental illness which focuses on the needs of the individual in his or her home.

## **CLA** Community Living Arrangement

**CLF** Community Living Facility - A facility geared to assist persons in developing adequate social skills, vocational skills and other skills needed in preparation for independent living for persons with developmental disabilities.

**CON** Certificate of Need - Permit granted by the Health Facilities Planning Board (HFPB) for acquisition of major medical equipment or construction or modification of health care facilities.

**CP** Cerebral Palsy - A condition caused by damage to the brain which results in impairment or lack of muscle control and coordination. Other difficulties may also be apparent such as speed deficits, visual disorders, hearing deficits, mental retardation, learning disabilities, seizures, or perceptual and behavior disorders. These problems may occur singly or together. CP is considered a developmental disability.

**CRA** Community Residential Alternative - A group home for eight or fewer adults that provides training and guidance in the skills of daily living and provides opportunities for participation in community activities for persons with developmental disabilities.

**CRS** Community Reimbursement System - A computer database designed to process billings for services, record service delivery, and generate Medicaid claims for all community providers except those receiving traditional grants.

## **CSL** Community Systems Liaison

## **CTT** Continuous Treatment Team

## **D/B** Students who are Deaf and Blind

**DASA** Department of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse - Oversees a statewide service network of programs focusing on alcohol and substance abuse prevention, intervention, treatment, after care and research.

## **DAVTE** Division of Adult/Vocational Technical Education

**DCFS** Department of Children and Family Services - State child welfare agency responsible for administering various programs including family counseling, protection for abused and neglected children, foster family care and assistance to unwed parents.

**DD** Developmental Disability - A disability which is attributable to mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism, or any other condition or impairment similar to mental retardation, which originated before age 18 years and is expected to continue indefinitely, and which constitutes a substantial handicap.

**DE** Data Ease

**DHS** Department of Human Services

**DLA** Discharge, Linkage and Aftercare

**DMH** Department of Mental Health

**DMHDD** Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities

**DOA** Department of Aging - State agency responsible for planning and coordinating state resources for the elderly.

**DOJ** Department of Justice (Federal)

**DOL** Department of Labor - State agency responsible for enforcing the Illinois labor law.

**DPA** Department of Public Aid - Administers programs to encourage independence and self support to the state's underprivileged citizens; also responsible for administrating the Federal medical program and other federal and state public assistance programs.

**DPH** Department of Public Health - State agency responsible for the maternal and child health services that protect and improve the health and wellbeing of Illinois citizens.

**DRS** Division of Rehabilitation Services - A state agency involved with vocational training for the disabled.

**DSM** Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders

**DT** Developmental Training - A program to prepare adults to live and function in integrated social settings; and promote independence in daily living and economic self-sufficiency for persons with developmental disabilities.

**DX** Diagnosis

**ED** Emotional disorder

**EFA** Epilepsy Foundation of America - Supports programs of information, referral, public and professional education, employment assistance, advocacy, and self help. It also supports medical research, works with government agencies and with Congress, speaks out on behalf of people with epilepsy.

**EHA** Education of the Handicapped Act (Federal) - Changed to Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Oct. 30, 1990.

**EPS** Emergency Psychiatric Services

**EPSDT** Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment - DPA funded program that provides complete health exams, dental care, laboratory tests and x-rays and immunizations for children.

**ETC** Education to Careers

**FAP** Family Assistance Program - Program provides a monthly cash stipend to families who provide care for children whose level of mental illness or developmental disability constitutes a risk of out-of-home placement. The family determines the most appropriate use of the resources to address the unique and changing needs of children with mental disabilities.

**FAPE** Free and appropriate public education

**FAQ** Frequently asked questions

**FASP** Family Assistance/Support Program - Direct staff support on an intermittent basis to allow an adult to maintain residence in the family home.

**FFP** Federal Financial Participation - Refers to the federal matching payment that is received through the Medicaid program.

**FHAA** Fair Housing Amendments Act

**FHM** Family Home Maintenance - Direct staff support on an intermittent basis to allow an adult with developmental disabilities to maintain residence in the family home.

**GAC** Guardianship and Advocacy Commission

**GAL** Guardian ad litem

**HBSS** Home Based Support Services Program - Program funds home-based and community-based services for adults with mental disabilities in order to provide alternative to institutionalization and to permit persons to remain in their own homes. Services are based on the individual needs of the adults and their families participating in the program.

**HB69** House Bill 69 - Refers to the initial proposal which treated the FAP and HBSS programs. It was later adopted as PA86-921

**HCBS** Home and Community Based Services - Medicaid funded community-based habilitation services and support designed as alternatives to placement in institutional settings for persons with developmental disabilities.

**HCFA** Health Care Financing Authority (Federal) - The Federal agency with responsibility for administering the Federal Medicaid and Medicare programs.

**HCN** Health Care Network

**HHS** Health and Human Services (Federal)

**HI** Hearing Impaired

**HIPPA** Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act

**HR** Human Resources

**HV** Home visit

**HX** History

**IACMHA** Illinois Association of Community Mental Health Associations

**IAG** Individual Advocacy Group

**IARF** Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities-Association for rehabilitation facilities

**ICAP** Inventory for client and agency planning (functional assessment)

**ICF** Intermediate Care Facility - A facility which provides basic nursing care and other restorative services under periodic medical direction.

**ICF/DD** ICF for people with Development Disabilities - A facility of three or more persons, or a distinct part thereof, providing active treatment to residents who are developmentally disabled.

**ICF/MI** ICF for people with mental illness

**ICG** Individual Care Grant (Issued through DMH)

**IDT** Interdisciplinary Team - A group of persons professionally qualified in various fields that identifies the service needs of an individual with developmental disabilities and devised ways to meet those needs.

**IEP** Individual Education Plan

**IETC** Illinois Employment and Training Center

**IHFBP** Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board - Responsible for reviewing applications and approving permits for the acquisition of major medical equipment and the construction or modification of health care facilities for persons with developmental disabilities.

**IHP** Individual Habilitation Plan - A comprehensive written plan of services for an individual, including services provided by all service providing agencies.

**IOC** Inspection of Care

**IPE** Individualized Plan for Employment

**IPCDD** Illinois Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities - Services as an advocate for all persons with developmental disabilities to assure that they receive the services and other assistance and opportunities necessary to enable them to achieve their maximum potential through increased independence, productivity and integration into the community.

**IPP** Individual Program Plan

**IQ** Intelligence Quotient

**ISBE** Illinois State Board of Education

**ISC** Individual Service Coordination

**ISCP** Individual Service Coordination Plan

**ISP** Individual Service Plan

**ISSA** Individual Support Service and Advocacy

**ITASH** Illinois Teacher's Association for the Severely Handicapped

**ITP** Individual Treatment Program

**JCAHO** Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations

**JCAR** Joint Committee on Administrative Rules - Responsible for analyzing proposed rules, reviewing existing rules and administering the complain review program in order to promote adequate and proper rules by agencies.

**JVS** Jewish Vocational Services LAC Local Advisory Council

**LAN** Local Area Network LCPC Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor

**LCSW** Licensed Clinical Social Worker

**LD** Learning Disabled

**LEA** Local Education Agency

**LRE** Least Restrictive Environment

**MA** Mental Age MCO Medical Clinic Option

**MD** Muscular Dystrophy

**MDC** Multi-disciplinary Coaching

**MDS** Multi-disciplinary Staffing

**MH** Multiply Handicapped

**MHAGC** Mental Health Association of Greater Chicago

**MHAI** Mental Health Association of Illinois

**MHSIP** Mental Health Statistics Improvement Project

**MI** Mental Illness

**MI/DD** Mental Illness and Developmental Disabilities (Dual Diagnosis)

**MI/SA** Mental Illness and Substance Abuse (Dual Diagnosis)

**MMI** Mildly Mentally Impaired

**MR** Mentally Retarded

**MS** Multiple Sclerosis

**MSW** Masters Degree in Social Work

**NADDC** National Association of Developmental Disabilities Councils  
Promotes cooperation and communication among federal agencies, state governments, volunteer groups, individual state and territorial councils, and other organizations. Represents the views of state developmental disabilities councils in Washington.

**NAMI** National Alliance for the Mentally Ill

**NARC** National Association for Retarded Citizens - See Association for Retarded Citizens

**NASMHPD** National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors

**NASMRPD** National Association of State Mental Retardation Program Directors, Inc. - Monitors and reports on administrative, legislative, and judicial activities that affect programs concerning mental retardation. Provides technical assistance services.

**NF** Nursing Facility

**NISRA** Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association

**NSSEO** North Suburban Special Education Organization  
**NWSRA** Northwest Special Recreation Association  
**OA** Orphanage Act (Funding for children who are wards of the state on an individual or group basis)

**OCR** Office for Civil Rights

**OHI** Other Health Impaired

**OIF** Osteogenesis Imperfect Association

**OIG** Office of the Inspector General

**OPG** Office of Public Guardian

**O & M** Orientation and Mobility Training (Curriculum aspect of the visually impaired program)

**OSERS** Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services

**OSG** Office of the State Guardian

**OT** Occupational Therapy

**OV** Office Visit

**P&A** Protection and Advocacy

**PAS** Pre-Admission Screening

**PC** Protective Custody

**PC** Politically Correct

**PCMR** President's Committee on Mental Retardation

**PD** Policy and Procedure Directive

**PDD** Pervasive Developmental Disorder

**PE** Physical Education

**PH** Physically Handicapped

**POS** Purchase of Service

**PPO** Preferred Provider Organization - Agencies authorized through the DMHDD to provide CILA services to individuals with developmental disabilities or mental illness.

**PT** Physical Therapy

**PTO** Paid time off

**PW** Paperwork

**PX** Prognosis

**QA** Quality Assurance - Assuring that individuals with disabilities and their families who receive department funded services are receiving the service as described and as intended in statute, regulation or policy

**QMHP** Qualified Mental Health Professional

**QMRP** Qualified Mental Retardation Professional

**RCL** Resources for Community Living

**RDB** Resource Design Bureau

**RIC** Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

**ROCS** Reporting of Client Services

**RX** Prescription

**SBE** State Board of Education - The state agency responsible for setting policies and guidelines for public and private schools, as well as for adults and vocational education, for students 3 to 21.

**SAC** State Advocacy Council on Special Education - State Council that reports to the Governor and General Assembly on issues relating to special education needs for children through age 21.

**SAM** Service Area Meeting

**SASS** Screening, Assessment and Support Services

**SD** Seizure Disorder

**SEP** Supportive Employment Program

**SLIP** Special Home Placement - A home expected to provide an appropriate environment, adequately meeting physical, social and intellectual needs of an individual with developmental disabilities.

**SIB** Self injurious behavior

**SIB** Scales of Independent Behavior (functional assessment)

**SICEI** State Interagency Council on Early Intervention - A council established to advise and assist ISBE in the performance of responsibilities under Part H PL 99-457.

**SLA** Supported Living Arrangement - Semi-independent residential arrangement with 24 hour staff presence, but less intensive supervision than CRA, HIP, or CLF for individuals with developmental disabilities.

**S/LT** Speech/Language Therapist (Therapy)

**SMI** Severely Mentally Impaired

**SNF** Skilled Nursing Facility - A facility which provides skilled nursing care, continuous skilled observations, restorative nursing and other services under professional direction with frequent medical supervision.

**SNF/PEDS** Skilled nursing facility-pediatric

**SOF** State Operated Facility

**SOF/DD** State Operated Facility/Developmental Disability

**SOF/MI** State Operated Facility/Mental Illness

**SSA** Social Security Administration

**SSDI** Social Security Disability Insurance

**SSI** Supplemental Security Income

**S/P** Severely/Profoundly Mentally Impaired

**STEP** Secondary Transitional Experience Program (Vocation program provided for high school-aged students in conjunction with DRS).

**SV** Site Visit

**SW** Social Worker

**TSP** Transition Specialist Project

**TMH** Trainable Mentally Handicapped

**TVS** Transitioning Vocational Services

**UA** Unauthorized Absence

**UCPA** United Cerebral Palsy Association - Seeks to ensure the rights and entitlements of people with disabilities. Helps equip and enable individuals with cerebral palsy and other severe disabilities to attain the fullest possible employment, productivity and participation in an integrated community. Provides factual material for awareness and understanding on the part of all segments of the public. Mobilizes human and financial resources to accomplish these goals.

**UST** Unfit to Stand Trial

**VAC** Vocational Adjustment Counselor

**VI** Visually Impaired

**VR** Vocational Rehabilitation

**WFC** Work Force Council

**WIA** Work Force Investment Act