



# DD Council Member Guide



For people appointed to serve or interested in serving on a  
Council for Developmental Disabilities

This guide provides information about the role and responsibilities of a DD  
Council Member.

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## What is the purpose of a Developmental Disabilities (DD) Council?

Acronym Alert: **Acronyms are initials that stand for a certain word.**

- DD means Developmental Disability
- AIDD means the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

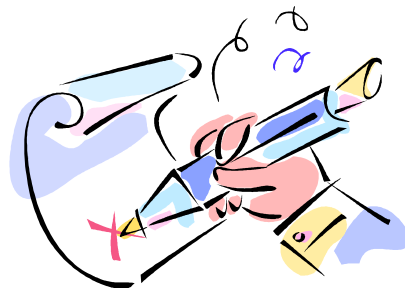
The purpose of the DD Council is to help people with developmental disabilities to use self-determination, be independent, be productive and be integrated and included in all parts community life. Councils on Developmental Disabilities are located in every State and select US Territories. DD Council members serve as volunteers and are appointed by the state governor to represent and advocate for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Before the first passage of the Developmental Disabilities Act in 1970, families received almost no help, children could not attend schools, and many people were sent to State institutions for life. Over the past 40+ years, DD Councils have helped to bring about some remarkable changes.

## What is the Developmental Disabilities Act (DD Act)?

The Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 Public Law 106-402 (usually called the DD Act) is federally implemented by the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

Title I, Subtitle B in the DD Act explains the function of a Council. This title says that DD Councils must include and support people with developmental disabilities and their families to take part in the design of and have access to needed community services and individualized supports. These include other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, integration and inclusion in all parts of community life.



## Main values in the DD Act (PL 106-402)

**Independence** . to have control

**Productivity** . to work or make other contributions to a household or community

**Integration** . to have the right to the same opportunities, services, and community resources as other people

**Inclusion** . to fully take part in learning, living, working, and other community activities

AIDD develops program regulations and provides technical assistance and guidance to state programs.

AIDD Central office staff is assigned to assist DD Councils; these staff members are available and helpful. If a DD Council needs help from AIDD, they are just a phone call away!

Annually, AIDD sponsors a Technical Assistance Institute for Councils on Developmental Disabilities through the Technical Assistance grant and/or contract.

All DD Council State plans and fiscal and program reports are submitted to and approved by AIDD.

The DD Council reporting information is used by AIDD to develop reports to Congress.

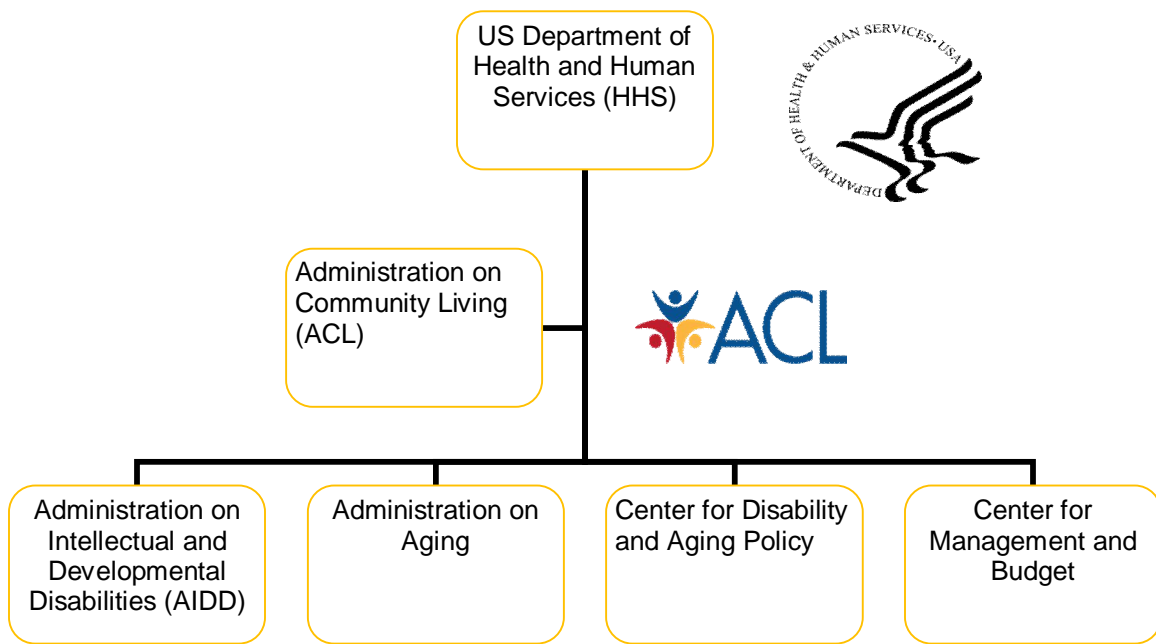
## What is the DD Council's relationship with the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD)?

### Acronym Alert:

- UCEDD means University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education
- P & A means Protection & Advocacy System
- DHHS means The United States Department of Health and Human Services
- ACF means Administration on Children and Families
- ACL means Administration on Community Living
- U.S. means United States

The Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) is the federal agency for the DD Act Programs. AIDD provides funding and oversight of State Councils on Developmental Disabilities, Protection & Advocacy Systems (P&As), the University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education (UCEDDs), Research and Service, Projects of National Significance (PNS), The President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities, and The Help America Vote Act.

### AIDD's place in Federal Government



## [Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities \(AIDD\)](#)

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is the United States (U.S.) government's main agency for protecting the health of all Americans and provides essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves.

HHS includes more than 300 programs. One of the agencies in the Department of Health and Human Services is the Administration on Community Living (ACL).

The Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) is the U.S. Government organization responsible for seeing that the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000, known as the DD Act, is put into action. AIDD, its staff and programs, are part of the Administration for Community Living, of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

## What are the three programs that make up the DD Network?

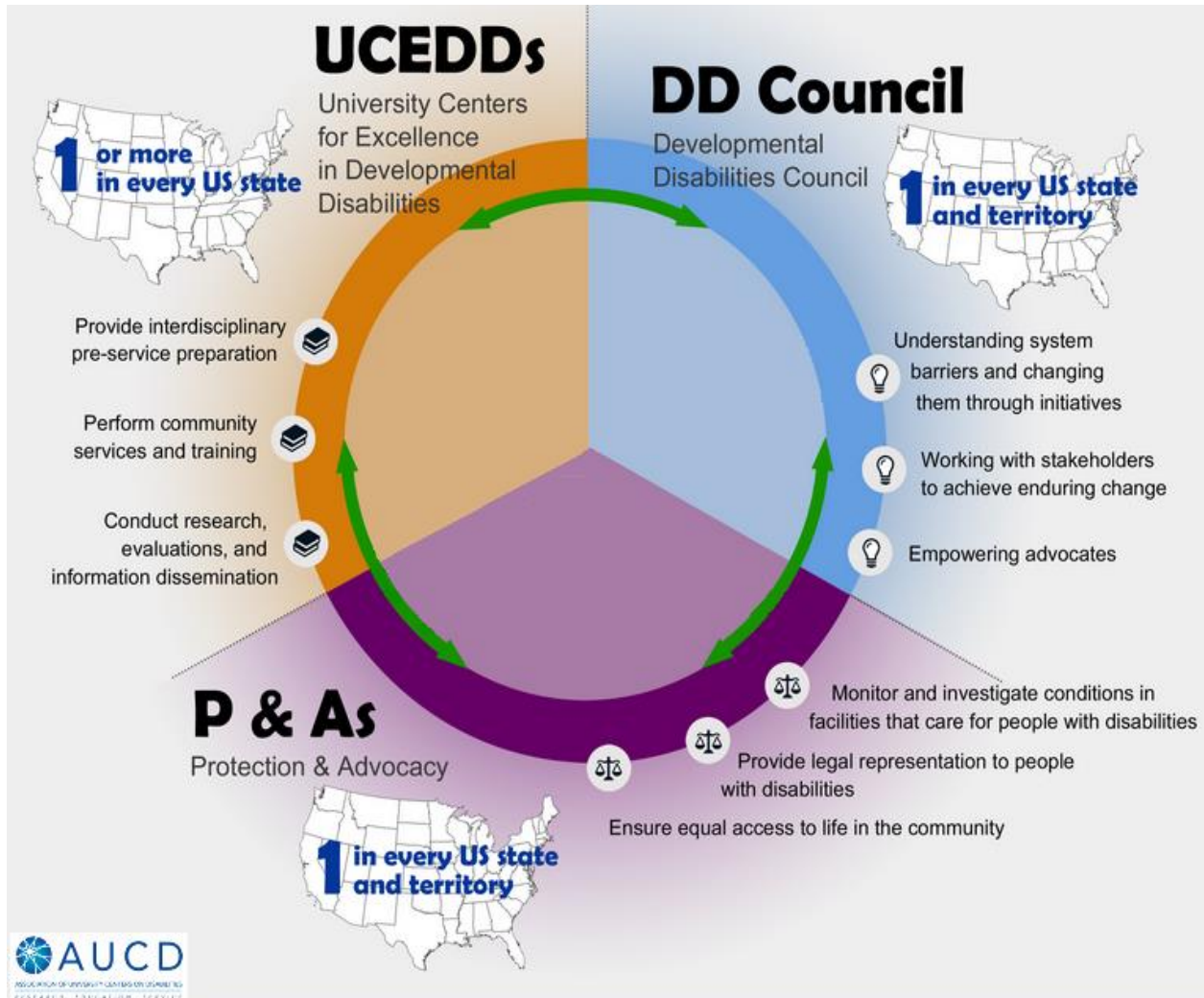
Acronym Alert:  
PNS means Projects of National Significance

There are three programs created from the DD Act. These three programs are commonly called the Developmental Disabilities Network. The three programs are:

- **DD Councils** (the one you are now a member of). There are 56 DD Councils funded under the DD Act.
- **Protection and Advocacy Program (P & A)**. The P&A protects the legal and human rights of all people with developmental disabilities. There are 57 State protection and advocacy systems funded under the DD Act.
- **University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education (UCEDD)** UCEDDs perform interdisciplinary training, community service, technical assistance, research, and information dissemination activities. UCEDD programs are designed to increase the independence, productivity, and community integration of individuals with developmental disabilities. There are 68 UCEDDs funded under the DD Act.
- **Projects of National Significance (PNS)** is **not** one of the sister agencies but is considered a network partner that provide grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements to create opportunities for people with developmental disabilities to participate in all areas of the community.

# DD Act Network Partners

## Infographic



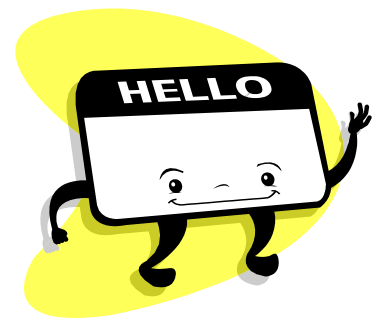
## What are the responsibilities of a DD Council as a Whole?

- Promote and support advocacy, systems change and capacity building for people with developmental disabilities and their families.
- Support programs, projects and activities that improve the quality of life for people with disabilities.
- Develop and put into action a 5-year State plan.
- Watch the progress of the 5-year State plan and make changes as necessary.
- Review the designated state agency from time to time.
- Report DD Council activities to AIDD.
- Prepare, approve and put a budget into action annually.
- Hire an Executive Director, evaluate the Executive Director yearly following state laws and processes.
- Establish, strengthen or collaborate with a self advocacy organization to help provide leadership opportunities for people with developmental disabilities.
- Develop and monitor grants and contracts.

## Who are the Council Members?

60 percent of the all Council members must be:

- 1) People with developmental disabilities.
- 2) Parents or guardians of children with developmental disabilities.
- 3) Immediate relatives or guardians of adults with intellectual disabilities who cannot speak for themselves.
- 4) In addition these Council members cannot be a managing employee of an agency that receives money from the Council.



Of the members of the Council described above:

- 1 /3 must be individuals with developmental disabilities.
- 1 /3 must be parents or guardians of children with developmental disabilities described in paragraph, or immediate relatives or guardians of adults with developmental disabilities.
- 1 /3 must be a combination of individuals with developmental disabilities or family members of people with developmental disabilities.
- At least one DD Council member must be an immediate relative or guardian of an individual with a developmental disability who lives or used to live in an institution or the member could be an individual with a developmental disability who lives or used to live in an institution.

The other members of the DD Council speak and act for agencies and organizations listed below:

- Rehabilitation Act
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
- Older Americans Act
- Maternal and Child Health Programs of Title V of the Social Security Act
- Medicaid/Title XIX of the Social Security Act
- University Center(s) for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities
- Protection and Advocacy System
- Local and non-governmental agencies involved with services for individuals with developmental disabilities
- Non profit groups involved with services for individuals with developmental disabilities



# Basic responsibilities of a DD Council Member

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*Adapted from BoardSource Governance Series*

## **Role and Responsibility: What is the difference?**

**Role** defines position within an organization

**Responsibility** defines duties of the position

### ✓ **Determine mission (the purpose of a DD Council is mandated by the DD Act)**

- **Create and review a statement of mission and purpose that speaks to the DD Council's goals and primary people served.**

TIP: Use the mission statement as a frame of reference when making DD Council decisions. Review the mission statement regularly for the purpose of reaffirming the current mission statement or to determine if changes need to be made.

### ✓ **Select the Executive Director**

- **Review and update the Executive Director's job duties and responsibilities; conduct a careful search to find the most qualified person for the position**

This is a DD Act mandate. The DD Council recruits and hires the Executive Director. The Executive Director recruits, hires, all other staff.

### ✓ **Support and annually evaluate the Executive Director**

- **DD Council members should ensure the Executive Director (ED) has the moral and professional support to further the goals of the organization; annually evaluate the Executive Director following applicable policies and procedures.**

The annual evaluation of the DD Council ED is required by the DD Act. The annual evaluation is important for providing feedback on job performance and often time includes highlights and accomplishments from the year, areas for improvement, plans for professional development and goals for the coming year. The ways for conducting an evaluation vary from DD Council to DD Council; however, it is important that the annual

evaluation for a DD Council Executive Director is conducted by the DD Council (not the DSA or other entity of the state).

TIP: Ensure all DD Council members know the general process and timeline for the annual evaluation of the Executive Director. The responsible person or person(s) should inform the DD Council of the completion and results of the annual evaluation once completed.

✓ **Ensure effective planning**

- **DD Council members should actively participate in the overall planning process for the DD Council 5 – year state plan**

This is a DD Act mandate. The Council shall develop the State plan and submit it to the Governor. Active participation means that a DD Council member will use the information gained from the Comprehensive Review and Analysis (the present status of services and supports provided for people with DD and their families in the State) and information from the public to identify the unmet needs of people with DD and their families.

TIP: The personal experiences citizen members of a DD Council brings to the Council is important because they have current knowledge and experiences about accessing the service delivery system, community services, personalized supports and other experiences connected to the disability experience. However, individual DD Council members represent all citizens with developmental disabilities in the State/Territory. In other words, the leadership and guidance provided by a DD Council member affects all citizens with developmental disabilities in the State/Territory.

DD Council members can take advantage of opportunities to listen to other people in the State/Territory who live with developmental disabilities. Information gained at the local level can be shared during DD Council meetings.

✓ **Implement and monitor the DD Council 5 year State plan**

- **DD Council members should actively participate in the implementation of the 5-year State plan (by providing leadership for strategies, activities, and approving funding) and monitor the plan's goals**

Each year, a DD Council must submit a report of its progress toward the goals of the 5-year state plan. This report is called the Annual Program Performance Report or PPR. Many DD Councils include a status report on all activities of the 5-year State plan during their regular scheduled meetings. This is a great way for the Council to celebrate successes, address challenges, and provide leadership and guidance to the DD Council staff on the implementation of the 5-year State plan.

TIP: As part of each DD Council meeting agenda, report on activities and initiatives used to implement the 5-year State plan. Ensure all DD Council members know what process the DD Council staff uses to assess the impact of DD Council work; determine how the information can be used to inform the work and future decisions.

Note: The DD Act mandates a minimum of 70% of each year's federal grant award be dedicated to implementing the goals/objectives of the DD Council 5-year State plan.

✓ **Approve and implement the budget; provide financial oversight**

○ **DD Council members should assist in developing, approving and implementing the annual budget**

This is a DD Act mandate. Each Council shall prepare, approve and implement an operating budget . this often includes tasks such as approving funds for grant projects/initiatives, approving funds for DD Council staff to conduct activities and/or approving new and continuation grant awards. In addition, a DD Council should provide financial oversight by monitoring the Council's financial status on a regular basis (most Councils do this as part of their regularly scheduled meetings).

In order for a DD Council member to fulfill their ROLE, and perform the responsibilities of their role, the following is common information DD Council staff provide to DD Council members:

- Annual Operating budget
- Funds awarded for grants and/or contracts for Initiatives
- Summary of Federal Year of Funds
- Funds Available for Future Projects

Common responsibilities of DD Council staff related to budget activities include: Establish the operating budget for the DD Council, allocation of funds among strategies and initiatives; approving expenditures of funds within the budget approved by the DD Council; completing financial reports in a timely manner; and, recommending budgetary activities.

✓ **Build a competent DD Council**

○ **Identify potential members for appointment; orient and mentor new members; periodically evaluate individual and overall DD Council membership effectiveness**

A DD Council will only be as effective as its individual members. The DD Act allows for DD Councils to recommend to the Governor people to serve as members. This is not a mandate, but allowed and should work in concert with the process the DD Council follows in the State/Territory. Orientation to the DD Council will help clarify expectations for individual DD Council members. Orientation sessions typically include responsibilities, how the DD Council is organized to do the work, relationships with staff, etc. Additional information such as mission, history, major achievements and accomplishments, budget, 5-year state plan, initiatives and other topics are typically included.

✓ **Ensure legal and ethical integrity (conflict of interest, code of conduct, etc.)**

- **Be knowledgeable about legal and ethical requirements for public officials; follow all conflict of interest policies (and other policies, as applicable) to ensure the public trust.**

Words such as diligence, commitment, and vigilance are often attached to a DD Council's members' role as they oversee Council business. Words such as compliance, transparency and accountability are often attached to the DD Council reputation and public standing.

Compliance means that the DD Council is adhering to the regulatory (DD Act mandates) and legal conditions required for the funding and operation of a DD Council.

Transparency means being open with accurate information about funding, the use of funding, major activities and other areas such as organizational policies and procedures, requests for information, etc.

Accountability refers to the ability to follow DD Council policies and procedures. Annually, a DD Council is required to share information with policymakers, the public, agencies, and other stakeholders about DD Council activities, accomplishments, and challenges for specific reporting periods. In addition, the DD Act mandates all Councils adopt and use a conflict of interest policy to ensure DD Council members are free from real or perceived conflict(s) of interest.

✓ **Enhance the DD Council's public standing**

- **Be able to talk about the DD Council mission, accomplishments and goals to the public and gain support from the community.**

DD Council members serve as a link between the DD Council and the citizens of the State. The ability to strategically communicate a DD Council's story and contribute to a healthy and accurate public image for the DD Council is essential. DD Council members should be in a position

to talk about DD Council achievements (information in annual reports, press releases, web-site announcements), and be able to deliver an interesting and compelling explanation of a DD Council's purpose and mission.

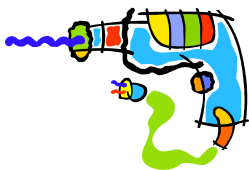
## What is the State Plan?

The State plan tells the public how services and programs for individuals with DD and their families should look five years from now. The plan provides guidance to the DD Council on how it spends its resources. Each year, DD Councils are required to review and update their plan if necessary.

The DD Act describes Areas of Emphasis that are important to people with developmental disabilities. DD Councils can spend money and perform activities in these areas.

### Areas of Emphasis

- Quality Assurance (Self-Advocacy)
- Child-care
- Education and early intervention
- Employment
- Health
- Housing
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Formal and Informal Community supports



## What are some tools (strategies) a DD Council can use to achieve its mission?

Below is a list of tools (strategies) that DD Councils can use to implement their State plan goals:

- Research and data gathering.
- Policy papers and reports about issues that impact people with developmental disabilities.
- Education (information) to the media and general public.

- Advice to the Governor, legislature and agencies on policy that impacts people with developmental disabilities.
- Testimony in committee about how legislation will impact people with disabilities.
- Help to self advocates and families to learn about and connect with the political process.
- Grants/Demonstration of approaches to services and supports.
- Input from the community.

Below are tools (strategies) a Council **cannot use:**

- Protest Politics
- Lawsuits
- Lobbying



## What is a Designated State Agency (DSA)?

Acronym Alert:  
DSA means Designated State Agency

DD Councils must have a designated State agency (DSA). The DSA can be the DD Council or another agency or office of the State. The DSA receives the federal funds and pays for all expenses of the DD Council. The Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities has stated, "There does not have to be any program relationship between the Council and its designated State agency+it is primarily a fiscal relationship.

The Act says that DD Councils cannot have a DSA that is an agency that pays for or provides services to people with developmental disabilities unless it was the DSA before 1994.

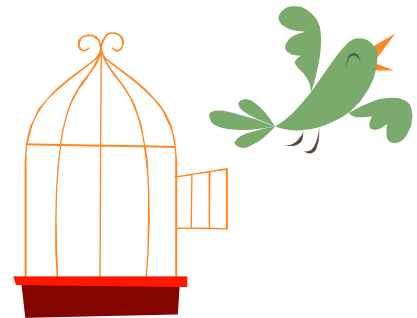
## Why is the independence of Council important?

State Councils on Developmental Disabilities are unique in the state government framework. DD Councils are afforded protection under the DD Act, and yet are often placed in unbending state structures.

There are several clauses in the DD Act that DD Councils should know about for their interactions within state structures.

The first is the noninterference clause. The clause says that the DSA, or any other agency or office of the State, cannot get in the way of the DD Council and the implementation of the DD Council's 5-year State plan, employees, budgets or specific activities. In general, the DSA must provide:

- Support services (as requested and negotiated by with the DD Council)
- Fiscal responsibilities
  - Receive
  - Account for
  - Disbursement of funds
  - Proper fiscal control and fund accounting procedures
- Records, access and financial reports
  - Provide timely financial reports about the status of expenditures, obligations and liquidations of the basic grant award
- Non-federal share (In-kind contributions, contributions of political subdivisions and public or private entities and other variations)
- Assurances (shall assist the DD Council in obtaining)
- Memorandum of Understanding (on request of the DD Council . used to outline roles and responsibilities of the DSA and the DD Council)



The second is the statements about budgets. A state or territory cannot apply hiring freezes, make the DD Council reduce its staff, tell DD Councils they cannot travel, or tell a DD Council they cannot use federal funds to carry out activities under the DD Act.

A third area of independence concerns DD Council staff hiring and supervision. A DD Council is required to hire a Director of the Council, should the position become vacant, and supervise and annually evaluate the Director. The Council Director hires, supervises and annually evaluates the staff of the DD Council. Staff of the DD Council, while working for the Council, shall work solely for the DD Council . staff cannot be assigned duties by the Designated State Agency or any other agency or entity of the

State. The DD Council must remain consistent with State laws and policies that govern hiring and personnel issues.

## If I want to be involved with my State/Territory DD Council where do I start?

If you are interested and ready to advocate for, and strengthen leadership skills in individuals with disabilities and their families simply contact your State/Territory DD Council. Many DD Councils have an application process, with term limits and committees. ~~and s~~Some DD Council appointments are handled solely through the Governor's Appointments Office. While every Council works a little bit differently all members of all Councils are appointed by the Governor of the State/Territory.

## What else do I need to know about my State/Territory DD Council?

Some questions you might find helpful to ask the DD Council Chairperson, Executive Director or DD Council member might be:

- How is the DD Council established in our State (for example: Executive Order, State Statute)?
- What is the DD Council's vision and/or mission statement?
- Who is the DD Council's Designated State Agency (DSA)?
- Who are the representatives of our DD Network programs?
- Who are the DD Council Staff and what is their job(s)?
- What is the DD Council attendance policy?
- Where is the DD Council meetings held?
- Where can I find DD Council meeting dates?
- Who do I contact for questions and support?





# Appendices

Appendices allow a Council Member to get even more information about DD Councils if they are interested.

- 1. History of DD Councils**
- 2. Meeting basics**
- 3. Resource Web Sites**

## 1. History of DD Councils

### FROM THE HISTORY FILES...

The Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act 2000 (PL 106-402) was written to improve service systems for individuals with developmental disabilities, and other purposes.

The history of the Developmental Disabilities Act (DD Act) is outlined below. It is important to know the history of the DD Act and understand the evolution over the years.

#### DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ACT HISTORY

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- 1970 Developmental disabilities Services and Facilities Construction Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-517)  
. (Amended Mental Retardation Facilities and Community Health Facilities Construction Act of 1963)
- **Added term “developmental disabilities” to expand target population beyond individuals with mental retardation, to also include individuals with cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and certain other neurological conditions which originate prior to age 18**
  - **Required states to establish a State Planning and Advisory Council responsible to submit and annual plan**
  - **Established National Advisory Council**
  - **Established university affiliated facilities program (UAF)**
- 1975 Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (P.L. 94-103)
- **Added autism and dyslexia to definition**
  - **Councils required to prepare plans on deinstitutionalization in their state**
  - ***Individualized Habilitation Plans* required in grant projects**
  - **DD Protection and Advocacy system created**
  - **Councils appointed by Governor; no longer called “advisory”**
  - **Role of Council to advocate established**
- 1978 Developmental Disabilities Amendments (P.L. 95-602)
- **Definition revised to functional definition; age of onset raised to 22**
  - **“Priority areas” added for services and projects**
  - **Council consumer representation requirement raised to 50%**
  - **National Advisory Council dissolved**
- 1981 Developmental Disabilities Act Amendments (through Omnibus Reconciliation Act . P.L. 97035)
- **Reauthorization with minimal changes**
- 1984 Developmental Disability Act of 1984 (P.L. 98-527)
- **“*Employment-related activities*” added as mandated priority**
  - **Values of *Independence, Productivity, and Integration* expressed**

- **“People First language” used throughout the Act**

1987 Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 1987 (P.L. 100-146)

- **Focus on the *capabilities, competencies, and preferences*, as well as needs of persons with developmental disabilities.**
- **Strengthened independence of the Council**
- **Focused Councils on “system change” efforts**
- **Required 1990 Report planning effort**
- **Supported role of Council in public policy advocacy and educating policymakers**

1990 Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 1990 (P.L. 100-496)

- **Further strengthened independence of Councils**
- **Revised the responsibilities of “designated state agency”**
- **Added values of *inclusion* and *interdependence***
- **Modified definition as applied to children under age 5**

1994 Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 1994 (P.L. 103-230)

- **Reorganized and simplified Act.**
- **Revised “integration and *inclusion*” as key principle**
- **Included emphasis on *cultural diversity* and *culturally competent* services and supports**
- **Added new definition for *Personal Attendant Services***
- **Revised language to refer to State DD Council (dropped *Planning* from reference)**
- **Added language that the Act does not “preclude a Council from engaging in systemic change, capacity building, and advocacy activities for individuals other than developmental disabilities, where appropriate.”**
- **Provided as “Projects of National Significance” a special initiative to investigate the expansion of Council activities to individuals with severe disabilities other than developmental disabilities.**
- **Further clarified role of Designated State Agency to provide support services “as requested by and negotiated with the Council”, and required the DSA to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Council if requested by the Council.**

1996 Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 1996

- **Extended authorization of the DD Act through 1999**

2000 Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (P.L. 104-402)

- **Extended and reauthorized the Act through 2007**
- **Revised requirements for State Plans for five years**

- Added nine “areas of emphasis” instead of “priority areas”
- Added definition of self-determination
- Clarified application of DD definition for children to age 9
- Requires Councils to report on waiting lists in each state
- Requires Councils to support self-advocacy organizations and leadership training opportunities
- Requires at least 60% of the Council to be individuals with developmental disabilities or family members and add a representative of the Medicaid Title V agency to the Council
- Requires annual reports to include information about consumer satisfaction with Council supported activities

### OTHER DISABILITY LAWS THAT MIGHT BE HELPFUL TO KNOW ABOUT

**The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990**

**The Telecommunications Act of 1996**

**The Fair Housing Act of 1989**

**The Air Carrier Access Act of 1986**

**The Voter Accessibility for the Elderly & Handicapped Act 1984**

**National Voter Registration Act 1993**

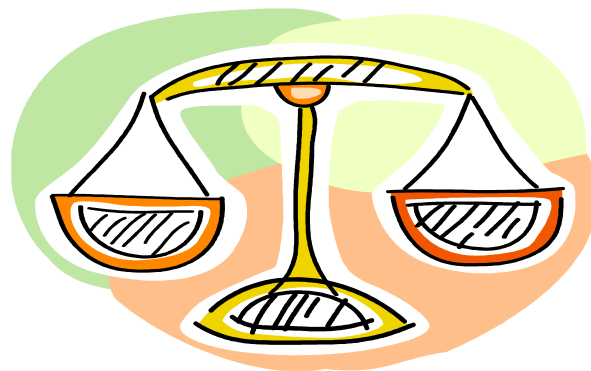
**Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act 1980**

**Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 1975**

**Architectural Barriers Act 1968**

**Developmental Disabilities Assistance & Bill of Rights Act 1975**

**The Rehabilitation Act of 1973**



## 2. Meeting basics

Every member of an organization should be familiar with the following simple rules and customs:

All members have equal rights, privileges, and obligations; rules must be administered impartially.

In voting, members have the right to know at all times what motion is before the assembly and what affirmative and negative votes mean.

### Basic Meeting Rules

1. All remarks are addressed to the presiding chairperson.
2. The chairperson calls the meeting to order.
3. The chairperson checks to see if there is a quorum.
4. The agenda is approved.
5. The minutes are approved.
6. Committee /Chair reports - if applicable.
7. Announcements
8. Old Business (unfinished business from previous meetings.)
9. New business
10. Program (guest speakers, etc.,) if applicable.
11. Adjournment

### Things to know...

1. Addressing the Chair . Chair or Chairperson
2. Quorum . applies to full DD Council and committee meetings.
3. Point of Order . Can be called when there is a breach in basic meeting conduct.
4. Member rights . The minority has rights that must be protected. Members must not attack and/or question the motives of other members.

### Making a Motion (Basics)

1. A Council member raises his/her hand, is recognized by the Chairperson, makes the motion clearly and concisely.
2. The motion is seconded.
3. The Chairperson restates the motion to the audience.
4. The Council debates/discusses the motion.
  - a. No member may speak twice to the same issue until everyone who wishes to speak has spoken once.
  - b. All remarks must be directed to the chair.
  - c. All remarks must be courteous, on point, unbiased and non-judgmental.
  - d. The Chairperson should moderate discussion.
5. A motion can be amended.
6. The ~~qu~~question is called. This ends debate/discussion.
7. The vote is taken.
8. The Chairperson announces whether the motion was adopted or not; instructs the correct council member or council staff member to take action.

Note: The above content may not be consistent with laws/policies of each state/territory requirements established by respective Open Meetings laws. Please check local rules.

### 3. Resource Web Sites

**Resource Web-sites you may find helpful:**

The Department of Health and Human Services

<http://www.hhs.gov/>

The Administration on Children and Families

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/>

Administration for Community Living

<http://www.acl.gov/>

Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

<http://www.acl.gov/Programs/AIDD/Index.aspx>

National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities

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

Information and Technical Assistance Center for Councils on Developmental Disabilities

<http://www.itacchelp.org>

National Disability Rights Network

<http://www.ndrn.org/index.php>

Association of University Centers on Disability

<http://www.aucd.org/template/index.cfm>