

***DD/VR 101:  
What Teachers Need to Know for Students with  
Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities***

*February 22, 2023*

**NEBRASKA**

Good Life. Great Mission.

**DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**VR**  
NEBRASKA

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**DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

# Today's Objectives

- Address basics of dual-agency collaboration
- VR Services
- DD Application, Eligibility, & Waiver Overview
- Timelines
- Information & Resources
- Questions



# VR/DD Collaboration

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) & HCBS Final Settings Rule
- Competitive Integrated Employment
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- Graduation Lists



# VR Services

- Intent to obtain competitive integrated employment
- Citizenship or appropriate legal documents required to work
- Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) development
- Team involvement continues

# Division of Developmental Disabilities Services

## Medicaid Home and Community Based Services waivers

- Aged and Disabled Waiver
- Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver
- Comprehensive Developmental Disabilities Waiver
- Developmental Disabilities Adult Day Waiver

## Eligibility

- Citizen or legal resident of US;
- Legal resident of the State of Nebraska;
- Eligible for and receive Nebraska Medicaid; and
- Have a need for waiver services

# DD Waiver Eligibility

To be eligible, a person must have a developmental disability defined in [Neb. Rev. Stat.](#)

[§83-1205:](#)

## **Diagnosis prior to age 22 that is expected to continue indefinitely**

- A severe, chronic disability, including intellectual disability, other than mental illness, which is attributable to a mental or physical impairment.

## **Disability must result in substantial functional limitations in each of the following areas of adaptive function:**

- **Conceptual** – language, literacy, money, time, number concepts, and adaptive functioning.
- **Social** – interpersonal, social responsibility, self-esteem, gullibility, wariness, social problem solving, ability to follow laws and rules and avoid being victimized.
- **Practical** – daily living, personal care, occupational skills, healthcare, and mobility.

# DD Adult Day (DDAD) Waiver

- SSI and Medicaid must be active prior to offer and start of services
- Offers made 90 days prior to graduation year when student turns 21
- No Residential Services included
- Wait list if application received after 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday



# Comprehensive Waiver (CDD)

- SSI and Medicaid must be active prior to offer and start of services
- May initiate services prior to graduation in circumstances such as: homelessness, foster youth/ward of state, specific services needed, etc.
- Residential services included

# Application Timeline

- [Nebraska VR](#) – anytime services needed (no wait list!)
- [Social Security](#) – age 18
- [Medicaid](#) – age 19 (family size of 1)
- [Medicaid HCBS DD Waiver Services](#) – prior to age 22; Early is better
- [ACCESS Nebraska](#) ~ iServe

# DD Notice of Decision

- Letter sent via USPS
- Eligibility Determination and if Ineligible, Reason for Denial
- Appeal Process and Timeline



# Supporting the Goal of Competitive Integrated Employment

## Benefits of Employment

- Earning income
- Dignity, respect, pride, identity, & purpose
- Increase self-confidence
- Sense of belonging
- Visibility to others
- Contribute to family and community
- Improved physical and mental health
- Access to recreation and leisure activities
- Avoid isolation and segregation
- Public Payment Reduction

**Raise expectations for ALL students!**



# Information & Resources

- [PTI Nebraska](#) –application/advocacy support/training for families
- [Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired](#) (NCBVI)
- VR can verify status/contact name for DD services
- Families may call DD **1-877-667-6266** (Eligibility, Service Coordination, etc)
- Invite Joyful Stoves from DD to present or host table events

[Joyful.Stoves@Nebraska.gov](mailto:Joyful.Stoves@Nebraska.gov) or 402-471-7910

# Miscellaneous

- What if a student chooses to graduate prior to age **21** or has met educational requirements?
- What DD services may be used prior to age 21?
- Invite DD Service Coordinator and VR staff to meetings
- Use [DD website](#) to keep reference materials updated
- Give yourself grace- Don't expect to have all the answers!

# Questions



## DD Eligibility

- [Eligibility](#) - Eligibility requirements and how to apply. ([Exenciones por discapacidades del desarrollo \(DD\) Elgibilidad para los servicio](#))
- [What do I Need to Know about Medicaid?](#) - ([Qué necesito saber sobre Medicaid](#))

## DD Application

- [Application](#) - The paper application for Medicaid HCBS waiver services. Can be used to apply for any or all HCBS waivers. ([en Espanol](#))
- [Applying for Developmental Disabilities Services](#) - Instructions on how to complete the DD application on-line

## DD Notice of Decision

- [Notice of Decision](#)

## Transition

- [Funding to Transition from Educational Services](#) - Funding priority for eligible people and entry for graduates. ([Servicios de DD: Fondos para la transición de Servicios Educativos](#))
- [Ready, Set, Go!](#) - Resources to help young adults with DD make decisions as they move from high school to adult life. ([en Español](#))
- [Tips for Teachers](#) - Information for teachers about DD eligibility, services, funding, resources for students and a timeline. ([Consejos para Maestros](#))
- [Available Services for Teens & Young Adults with Developmental Disabilities](#) ([Servicios disponibles para adolescentes y adultos jóvenes con discapacidades del desarrollo](#))
- [Along the Way A Guide for Adolescents and Young Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities](#)
- [Along the Way A Guide for Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities](#)
- [Along the Way Directory of Resources for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities](#)

## DD Adult Day and Comprehensive DD Waivers

- [Assessment & Budgeting](#) - Assess needs and budget for purchasing DD services. ([Evaluación y presupuesto para servicios de DD](#))
- [Eligibility](#) - Application and Eligibility. ([Exenciones por discapacidades del desarrollo \(DD\) Elgibilidad para los servicio](#))
- [Funding to Transition from Educational Services](#) - Funding priority for eligible people and entry for graduates. ([Servicios de DD: Fondos para la transición de Servicios Educativos](#))
- [Quick Guide](#) - Brief descriptions of DD waiver services. Longer definitions located in DD Policy Manual, chapter 8. ([Guía Rápida De Servicios DD](#))
- [Developmental Disabilities Adult Day Waiver Info Sheet](#) - A one-page overview of DDAD Waiver services and requirements. ([Discapacidades del desarrollo Adultos Exención de Día](#))
- [Comprehensive Developmental Disabilities Waiver Info Sheet](#) - overview of CDD Waiver services and requirements. ([Desarrollo integral Discapacidades Exención](#))