

## Services & Supports

The Division licenses community providers to offer DD services and supports. Some providers offer one service while others offer a wide range.

The Division funds the following types of services and supports:

- Supported Employment
- Customized Employment
- Community-Based Supports
- Shared Living Arrangements
- Residential Supports
- Transportation
- Center-Based Day Program
- Support Coordination
- Self-Directed Services

## Employment First

Employment First promotes community-based integrated employment as the first option for services for individuals with developmental disabilities (DD). BHDDH is committed to assisting individuals to access employment services, achieve self-sufficiency through employment enhancement, work force development and job creation.

## What is the Division of Developmental Disabilities?

The Division of Developmental Disabilities provides an integrated community based system of services and supports for adults with developmental disabilities (DD).

This system allows individuals with developmental disabilities to utilize natural supports within their community, safeguards their health/safety, promotes self-sufficiency/human rights and gives them fair access and distribution of available resources.

Our vision is for all individuals with DD to live a full and satisfying life in an integrated community-based setting.



**Division of Developmental Disabilities**  
**6 Harrington Road, Cranston, RI 02920**  
**401-462-3421 – Main Number**  
**401-462-3014 – Spanish**  
[www.bhddh.ri.gov](http://www.bhddh.ri.gov)



## Services and Supports from the Division of Developmental Disabilities



## **Determining Eligibility**

To receive funding through BHDDH's Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) individuals must meet the following definition of Developmental Disabilities according to Rhode Island state law.

Developmental Disability (DD) means: A person with an intellectual disability or a severe chronic disability which:

- Attributes to mental or physical impairment or a combination of both
- The impairment(s) existed before the age of 22 years old
- Is likely to continue indefinitely
- Results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of life activities: Self-Care, Expressive/Receptive Language, Mobility, Learning, Self-Direction, Capacity for Independent Living and Economic Self-Sufficiency.
- Reflects the person's need for a combination and sequence of special interdisciplinary or generic care/treatments or individually planned extended or life-long services.

## **Step #1: Apply for Eligibility**

DD applications are available at <https://bhddh.ri.gov/developmental-disabilities/eligibility-and-application> or you may call (401) 462-3421 and request an application.

Students are encouraged to apply for adult services 2 months before their 17<sup>th</sup> birthday. A determination will be made within 30 days after the completed application is received.

## **Step #2: Supports Intensity Scale (SIS)**

The SIS (Support Intensity Scale) is a standardized assessment tool designed by the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD) to measure the pattern and intensity of supports Adults with DD require to be successful in the community. SIS is administered by a certified SIS worker in a 2 to 3 hour meeting with the participant and two or more respondents who know the person well which may include family, teachers, service providers and anyone else the participant wants to include. The results of this assessment will yield a tier package that assist in the service planning process.

## **Step #3: Meet with a DD Social Case Worker**

Once you are found eligible you will be assigned a DD Social Case Worker who will assist you in planning for your future. The discussion will include the Employment First Initiative and the many options available to you through the services with a licensed service provider, self-directed supports and resources within your community.

## **Step #4: Choose a Service Model**

Select a Service Provider who can assist you in managing your own self-directed plan or explain agency service options that may help you reach your goals. The Service Providers develop Individual Service Plans (ISP's) which detail your long/short term goals and the steps/resources needed to reach your goals. ISP's are submitted to DDD for approval, reviewed and submitted annually but can be modified if necessary.

---

Please Note – To begin receiving services you must also be Medicaid eligible for funding. The Medicaid eligibility application can be found on the Department of Human Services (DHS) website at [dhs.ri.gov](https://dhs.ri.gov)