



Understanding the role of the DSHS' Developmental Disabilities Administration *for families of children birth to 3 in early intervention*

Did you know?

When you enroll your child in the Birth-to-3 or Early Support for Infants & Toddlers (ESIT) program, they also become eligible to become a client of the Department of Social and Health Services Developmental Disabilities Administration. DDA provides lifelong case management and services in Washington state for individuals with developmental disabilities who meet eligibility criteria.

What is available to all children and families enrolled with DDA?

All DDA-enrolled individuals are eligible for the following:

- Informing Families newsletter
- Access to the [Developmental Disabilities Endowment Trust Fund](#)
- An annual physical examination and additional dental services through [Apple Health](#) if eligible
- Reduced fees through the [Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife](#)
- Discounted passes with [Washington State Parks](#)
- Affordable [housing options](#)
- Access to a case manager



Your case manager helps connect you with community resources, referrals and DDA services. Not sure who your case manager is? Contact your [local DDA office](#) to ask.

Community First Choice is a program that assists individuals to stay in their community. You can request it for individuals who qualify for Apple Health (Medicaid). DDA does not provide Apple Health. Some individuals receive Apple Health through approved enrollment in a DDA Home and Community Based Services waiver. Waiver enrollment is based on available funding, and individuals must need a waiver service and meet functional and financial eligibility. Learn more [here](#). Not all DDA programs and services are available for all ages or situations. When you request a service, DDA will consider if your child's need for supports is more extensive than is typically expected based at that age.

If your child is Apple Health-eligible and under 21, Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) is available to make sure they receive appropriate preventive, dental, mental health, developmental and specialty services. [You can apply for Apple Health here](#).

Learn more about DDA programs and services [here](#). Do you need DDA services or more information now? [Submit a Service and Information Request here](#).

What's next?

You may receive a Planned Action Notice from DDA stating that your child's eligibility will be ending at age 4. You will need to complete an [Intake and Eligibility application](#) to request continued DDA eligibility. Learn more about PANs [here](#). Tell your DDA case manager if your contact information changes. This way you will keep getting important notices and stay enrolled. Staying enrolled with DDA can make life transitions easier and save you time when you need to request a future service.

Additional Resources:

- [Early Support for Infants & Toddlers | Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families](#)
- [Parent to Parent - Washington State \(arcwa.org\)](#)
- [PAVE: Partnerships for Action, Voices for Empowerment \(wapave.org\)](#)
- [Washington 2-1-1 - Washington 211 \(wa211.org\)](#)
- [Washington Autism Alliance](#)
- [Find Child Care / Early Learning | Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families](#)
- [Washington Connection \(Your Link to Services\)](#)
- [Washington Connection - YouTube](#)