



Agencies Providing Services for Adults with Disabilities

The following is a list of agencies that provide services to adults, and in some cases children, with disabilities. Each agency has criteria that will determine whether or not a person is eligible for their services. This is different than services you are entitled to under Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, which end at age 21 or at High School Graduation. It is worth making a call if you think you may qualify for some of the services.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (DSS):

The Connecticut Department of Social Services administers a range of services and programs through bureaus and agencies with local offices throughout the state. The central office of DSS is located at 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT, 06016. Their toll free telephone number is 1-800-842-1508. Their web address is <http://www.dss.state.ct.us>.

The following is a list of some of the DSS agencies and programs you may find helpful:

Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) **Phone: 1-800-537-2549 (Toll Free)**
860- 424-4839 (TDD/TTY)

Central Office: 25 Sigourney Street, 11th Floor, Hartford, CT 06016

Call for local office information

Web Address: <http://www.brs.state.ct.us/>

Provides services to assist persons with disabilities to obtain and maintain employment. BRS can provide individualized services to eligible persons that may include vocational assessment, guidance and training, career education and on-the-job training, supported employment services, rehabilitation technology services, and information on State and Federal benefits programs.

Independent Living Centers (ILCs) **Phone: Call Central DSS Office for Local Information**

Assists persons with disabilities to live independently in their communities. This program is administered by BRS. Services are provided through five ILCs. These services may include assistance in obtaining modifications to home or vehicle, adaptive equipment, personal care assistance, advocacy, peer counseling, and independent living skills.

Social Work **Phone: Call Central DSS Office for Local Information**

Can provide services to income eligible people with disabilities, ages 18-64, who need supportive home care or social work services to live independently in the community. In addition to counseling and advocacy, paid services such as housekeeping, home delivered meals, and emergency response services may be available.

Personal Care Assistance**Phone: Call Central DSS Office for Local Information**

Provides annual grants that are made available to help people with severe mental or physical disabilities to become and/or remain employed. These grants enable clients to employ personal care assistants to help them with daily activities. Social work services are also provided. For additional information, call the central office of DSS.

Medicaid**Phone: Call Central DSS Office for Local Information**

Provides health insurance for persons who meet eligibility criteria. To obtain additional information, contact the central office of DSS, or call your local DSS office.

OTHER STATE AGENCIES:**Department of Mental Retardation (DMR)****Phone: 860-418-6000 (Voice)
860-418-6079 (TD)****Central Office:** 460 Capitol Ave. Hartford, CT 06106**Web Address:** <http://www.dmr.state.ct.us/>

Provides, and funds, a wide array of services for people with mental retardation. To find the office nearest you, look in the Blue Pages of your phone book under "State of Connecticut, Department of Mental Health and Addition Services," or contact the central office at the number above.

Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities (P&A)**Phone: 860-297-4300 (Voice)
860-566-2102 (Voice or TDD)
1-800-842-7303 (Toll Free Voice Only)****Client Assistance Program (CAP)****Central Office:** 60B Weston Street, Hartford, CT 06120**Web Address:** <http://www.state.ct.us/opapd/>

The mission of the Office of Protection and Advocacy is to advance the cause of equal rights for persons with disabilities and their families by:

- increasing the ability of individuals, groups and systems to safeguard rights;
- exposing instances and patterns of discrimination and abuse;
- seeking individual and systemic remediation when rights are violated;
- increasing public awareness of unjust situations and of means to address them; and
- empowering people with disabilities and their families to advocate effectively

The purpose of the CAP program is to help individuals who are having problems with BRS or BESB.

**Board of Education and Services for the
Blind (BESB)**

**Phone: 860-602-4000 (Voice)
860-602-4020 (Fax)
860-602-4221 (TDD)**

Central Office: 184 Windsor Avenue, Windsor, Connecticut 06095

Web Address: <http://www.besb.state.ct.us/>

Responsible for the confidential registry of people who are blind in Connecticut and provides, within available resources, comprehensive low vision services, specialized education services, life skills training, case management, and vocational services to individuals of all ages who are legally blind and to children who are visually impaired. The agency assists them in acquiring the skills and support services necessary to be independent.

FEDERALLY FUNDED PROGRAMS:

Social Security Administration

**Phone: 800-772-1213
800-325-0778 (Voice/TDD)**

Web Address: <http://www.ssa.gov/>

For information about SSI, SSDI, PASS, Work Incentives, or Medicare, contact the Social Security Administration at the numbers above. These are benefit programs that individuals with disabilities may be eligible under the adult service agency system.

Social Security Income pays monthly benefits to people who are 65 or older, or blind or have a disability and who don't own much or have a lot of income.

Social Security Disability Income pay cash benefits to individuals who are unable to work because of a disability.

Plan for Achieving Self Support, is a special work incentive program for individuals with disabilities who receive or would like to receive SSI but would like to work.