HAMILTON COUNTY
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
SERVICES

Eligibility Process

Qualifying for services for ages 3 and older

To qualify for services, you or your family member must have a developmental disability that began before age 22, includes intellectual or physical disabilities expected to be lifelong, and is not caused solely by mental illness.

The Introduction and Eligibility team reviews each person's file to determine if you or your family member has a qualifying diagnosis. They administer an evaluation called the Children's Ohio Eligibility Determination Instrument (COEDI) or Ohio Eligibility Determination Instrument (OEDI). This statewide tool assesses the impact of a person's disability on functional abilities.

Eligibility is determined at ages 3, 6 and 16, or when there is a significant change in functioning.

Provide Proof of Disability

Individuals or their legal guardians are required to gather and submit records to the Introduction and Eligibility team to support proof of a developmental disability. This can include the most recent school, medical or psychological reports. Guardians will be required to provide probate court records showing proof of guardianship before assisting with the eligibility process.

Visit and Interview

If records confirm a developmental disability, an Eligibility Specialist will conduct a face-to-face interview to assess the person's current level of functioning. They administer the C/OEDI assessment and look at life skill areas including mobility, communication, self-care, learning, self-direction, and independent living. Assessments also include economic self-sufficiency for those ages 16 and older.

Final determination

You or your family member will receive a letter notifying you of the eligibility determination. You have the right to appeal if you do not agree with the results of the eligibility review.

To learn more about qualifying for services, please contact the Introduction & Eligibility team, (513) 559-6990 or intro@HamiltonDDSOhio.gov. For children younger than 3, contact Ohio Early Intervention at (513) 434-3322 or HMGreferrals@HelpMeGrow.org.