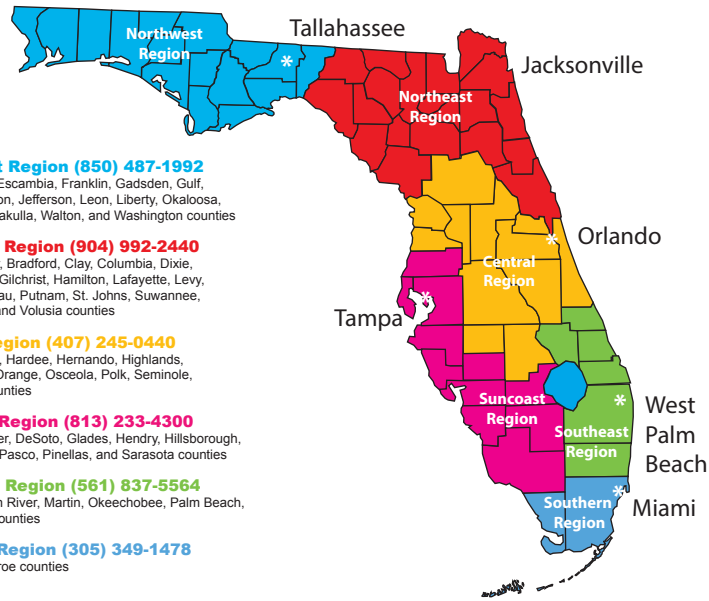


Applying for Services

An individual who has or might have a developmental disability, or their authorized representative may apply for services by contacting the Agency for Persons with Disabilities office in their region. Please be aware that APD has a long waiting list for people to receive services through the Medicaid waiver. The supports and services for Floridians with developmental disabilities are paid for with tax dollars and are administered through APD's six regional offices around the state.



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CONNECTING YOU TO THE COMMUNITY

*Serving Floridians with
Developmental Disabilities*

Agency For Persons With Disabilities



May 2013





The Agency

The Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) works in partnership with local communities to support people with developmental disabilities in living, learning, and working in their communities. APD provides critical services and supports for customers with developmental disabilities so they can reach their full potential. The agency serves people with spina bifida, autism, cerebral palsy, Prader-Willi syndrome, Down syndrome, and intellectual disabilities. There is no charge or co-payment for services provided through the agency. State and federal tax dollars fund the services.

Eligibility

A person must live in Florida, be at least three years old, and have a developmental disability that occurred before the age of 18 to be eligible for APD services. Children ages three to five who are at risk of being diagnosed with a developmental disability may also be served by APD. APD may provide a free assessment to determine if someone is eligible for services.

Programs

APD customers may be served in their community by funding provided through iBudget Florida. Other customers are provided assistance without being enrolled in a waiver program. Some APD customers are served by our two Developmental Disabilities Centers. The agency helps more than 50,000 Floridians with developmental disabilities each year.

iBudget Florida

APD provides a variety of services to about 30,000 customers who are currently enrolled in iBudget Florida. iBudget Florida is a better way for APD to manage the Home and Community-Based Services Medicaid waiver. Customers get to choose, with the assistance of their waiver support coordinator, how they want spend their yearly budget as long as their health and safety needs are covered. It is a simpler and more equitable, self-directed, and sustainable system that gives customers wider choices, greater flexibility, and more control over their services.

The Consumer-Directed Care Plus (CDC+) program allows customers to select their own non-Medicaid waiver providers to deliver care. They develop a purchasing plan to manage their allocated monthly budgets in order to meet their long-term care needs. Florida has the largest and most comprehensive CDC+ project in the nation, with about 2,000 individuals with developmental disabilities currently enrolled.

Developmental Disabilities Centers

Some people with developmental disabilities prefer to receive services and supports living in a home with others that have similar disabilities. The state of Florida has two centers: Sunland Center in Marianna and Tacachale Center in Gainesville. About 700 people currently live in these facilities.

In addition, the agency serves people found incompetent to go to trial due to their developmental disabilities. These individuals are served at the APD centers and at a facility located in Chattahoochee. About 200 people live in these locations.