

PLANNING FOR SUCCESS

PREPARING NOW FOR THE FUTURE
A VIRTUAL SERIES OF INFORMATION NIGHTS

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

October 2020

Acronyms

ACSD	<i>Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities</i>
CSCN	<i>Community Service Coordination Network</i>
DSO	<i>Developmental Services Ontario</i>
IEP	<i>Individual Education Plan</i>
MCCSS	<i>Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services</i>
ODSP	<i>Ontario Disability Support Program</i>
OSSC	<i>Ontario Secondary School Certificate</i>
OSSD	<i>Ontario Secondary School Diploma</i>
RSA	<i>Regional Support Associates</i>

Applying to the DSO

When can I apply to the DSO?

You can contact the DSO when your son or daughter turn 17.5 years old and confirm eligibility and get it approved. This will help you then go to ODSP when they are 17.5 years old have go through the financial eligibility portion of the application. Remember that the financial eligibility is for your son or daughter not the parent. They will only be looking at your child's financials and bank accounts not your own. And if you have set up an RDSP for your child it will not impact their eligibility.

Do you need psychological assessments in order to apply for the DSO?

Yes, you need a psychological assessment completed by a certified Psychologist.

The psychological assessment does not need to be recent.

If you do not have one or need to get an updated assessment, the DSO can assist you through the process. If you are unable to get an assessment from a private psychologist, then the DSO will refer you to RSA.

Is DSO eligibility based on IQ level?

To determine eligibility, the DSO looks at both cognitive and adaptive functioning.

It is also recommended that you keep all IEPs and any other reports from school; these documents can be added to your application and make the process easier to determine eligibility.

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Applying to and Using ODSP

Do you need to receive ACSD in order to qualify for ODSP?

No, you do not need to be on ACSD to qualify for ODSP.

Can a relative charge their loved one rent if the person receives ODSP?

Yes, if a parent or loved one wants to charge rent, this is usually done through a room and board allowance.

Information on Passport and Other Funding

Where can I find information on Passport funding?

You can find Passport information on the DSO website: www.dsontario.ca.

You can also find Passport information on the CSCN website: www.cscn.on.ca.

Is there any funding available to renovate a family basement into a separate living space for a person with a disability?

Please connect and consult with your local Municipal Building Authority for the most up-to-date information on available housing programs and requirements.

If you are a resident of Windsor, please contact the Housing Department:

For general information, call 311

For detailed inquiries, call 519-255-5200 ext. 6240 or e-mail sshousing@citywindsor.ca

For more information, see <https://www.citywindsor.ca/residents/housing/Pages/Housing.aspx>

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Community Integration through Co-operative Education (CICE) Post-Secondary Program

What is the CICE Program at St. Clair College?

St. Clair College offers a Community Integration through Co-operative Education (CICE) program for people with developmental disabilities.

More information is available on the St. Clair College website:

www.stclaircollege.ca/programs/community-integration-through-cooperative-education.

Does the CICE program only start in September, or is there an opportunity to start in January as well?

There is only a September start date for CICE. There is no January start date.

How do I apply for the CICE program?

Applications are submitted online at <https://www.ontariocolleges.ca/en/apply>.

The application process opens in October for the following school year and closes on February 1. When creating an account, please ensure that you use an email address other than your high school email.

Once you graduate from high school, you will not be able to access your school email.

Please check your e-mails regularly for important messages.

Can someone apply for the CICE program if the person has a Certificate of Accomplishment, but has not received an OSSD or OSSC?

The diploma is only one piece of the application process, and applicants' references and volunteer experience will also be considered. Please contact the college directly for more information regarding admission requirements.

Are CICE placements still being offered while COVID-19 restrictions are in place?

Limited placement options remain available during COVID-19.

In the fall 2020 semester, 13 out of 28 students were on placement.

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Employment Training Programs

What age do people typically begin pre-employment training programs?

Most people start their pre-employment training during the second last to last year of high school. Pre-employment and Summer Employment programs are available for students as young as 16 years of age.

How long are work placements?

Summer work placements are usually 6 weeks in duration.

Community Living Day Services and Community Participation Supports

How do I access services and supports offered by a Community Living organization?

Anyone who is interested in Community Living services needs to first go through the DSO to confirm eligibility. There are usually wait list for these services.

Can I choose to pay out of my own pocket for a day program or community participation supports while I wait for funded supports?

Some Community Living organizations do provide supports on a fee for service basis to people who have been deemed eligible by the DSO. Please contact the organization directly for further information.

Can 17-18 year olds participate in Community Living activities?

Supports offered by Community Living organizations are funded under MCCSS for adults (aged 18 and over) who live with developmental disabilities.

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Youth Transition Planning and Facilitation

This is a lot of information. Is there anyone who can assist me and my loved ones to make sense of this information, explore options, and take next steps?

Yes, if you or your loved one is 13-18 years old, living with a developmental disability, and thinking about life after high school, an independent facilitator from Brokerage can assist you and your family to start to think about, make choices, and plan for your future.

Contact Amy Sweet at 519-966-8094, Ext. 5 or amy@webps.ca to learn more and/or to set up a meeting!

Learn more: <http://webps.ca/youth-transition-planning/>