

## **Welcome to the DuPage County- Transition Planning Committee's Resource Guide**

The purpose of this guide is to help students and their families with the process of transitioning from the public school system to adult services by providing information about resources in DuPage County that are available after high school. It was written by the DuPage County Transition Planning Committee, a group comprised of representatives from the local special education cooperatives, school districts, Department of Human Services-Division of Rehabilitation Services office (DHS-DRS), parents and adult service providers. Visit [www.dhs.state.il.us](http://www.dhs.state.il.us)

The process of finding and accessing adult services can be confusing and frustrating. A glance at this resource guide will reveal that there are many different agencies and groups, both public and private, providing a wide range of services. At the same time, some of the most critical services (residential and vocational programs, accessible housing, and affordable transportation) are in very short supply in DuPage County. The best advice we can give you is to be persistent. If you aren't able to get what you need from one service provider, keep looking and make your needs known to your elected representatives. You can find out who your local representatives are by visiting [www.illinois.gov](http://www.illinois.gov).

As available services are in a constant state of flux, this resource guide should be considered a starting point rather than a complete listing. Please rely on your school system and other families for additional information that they may be able to provide in addition to this guide. In the Appendix, you will find listings of parent organizations and various other resources that we hope you will find helpful.

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**[Click Here to Continue  
to the Table of Contents](#)**

# Table of Contents

## 1. Transition Timeline

## 2. Educational Resources

- General information
- Local colleges with programs for students with disabilities
- Additional training resources

## 3. Vocational Resources

- General Information
- Types of services offered by community agencies
- Agencies offering vocational services in DuPage County
- Agencies offering vocational services in nearby counties
- Agencies offering developmental training

## 4. Residential and Supported Living

- General information
- Residential and supported living providers in DuPage County
- Respite services
- Personal assistance programs and accessible housing

## 5. Advocacy/Guardianship Resources

- Advocacy services and agencies
- Guardianship information
- Township information
- List of Attorneys

## 6. Financial Assistance Programs

- Social Security
- DHS-Division of Human Capital Development (Formerly Public Aid)
- Medical & Other Assistance

## 7. Recreational Resources

- Special Recreation Providers

## 8. Counseling and Crisis Intervention Resources

- Providers
- Agencies and individuals that specialize in counseling services for people with disabilities
- Self-help groups

## 9. Transportation Services

- DuPage County public transportation information
- Private providers

## 10. Appendix

- Common definitions and abbreviations
- Information and referral telephone numbers
- DuPage Transition Planning Committee information

## Transition Timeline

This timeline is a guide for parents of students with disabilities who are moving through the current school system. It is suggested that, no matter what age your child is currently, you should go through the checklist from the elementary age. Many of the suggested activities overlap and are processes that are ongoing such as, positive human relationships and good social skills at home and school. These traits need to develop as your child ages, but are not listed at each level of transition. Please be aware that learning what options are available for your child are important at every level. You are your child's best advocate.

### Elementary School Age

- Introduce the concept of work into everyday activities.
- Students should become familiar with all types of careers.
- Develop self-care and daily living skills and routines.
- Focus on human relationships and develop good social skills at home and school.
- Explore vocational opportunities at the upper grade levels that are available.
- Make your child a productive part of the household, introduce chores and an allowance.
- Explore self-advocacy information and community advocacy organizations that are available. You might need additional support at some point in time.
- Ensure that accessibility issues or adaptive equipment (i.e. communication, wheelchairs) needs are being addressed.
- Request information on Public Law 105-17, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and regulation updates. These are good resources.

## Middle School Age

- Begin career exploration, watch movies, read books, go to work with adults, etc.
- Support the teacher's efforts to provide job training as part of the school program.
- Find out the types of educational program options such as inclusion, vocational, combination, etc.
- At home, parents can also help their children explore careers by performing chores around the house, volunteering in the community, and participating in community service projects.

## 14 Years Old

- Parents should participate in a NEXT STEPS program to learn more about the transition process.
- Attend a DuPage County Transition Planning Committee (TPC) meeting.
- See that vocational training is built into your child's Individual Education Plan (IEP).
- Explore recreation and leisure interests.
- Attend every IEP meeting and have your input known.
- Find out how funding sources (e.g. Department of Human Services), Case Coordination Agencies (e.g. PACT, Inc.) and financial assistance programs (e.g. Social Security) can benefit you.
- According to the law, efforts for transition planning should begin no later than when the child reaches 14 1/2 years old. Transition goals should be a part of the IEP.
- Develop independent living skills.

## 15 Years Old

- Ask school staff about the Department of Human Services-Division of Rehabilitation Services (DHS-DRS) and how that office is involved with transition.
- Write transition goals into the IEP.
- Discuss home services and assistive technology.
- Ask that a staff member from DHS-DRS be invited to IEP meetings to address questions. Many will come even if you are not currently working with them.
- Attend information nights that offer information about future planning such as residential, guardianship, employment, and recreational needs.

## 16 Years Old

- Find and hold a part-time job at the school or in the community.
- Update transition goals at the IEP meeting.
- Complete the Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS) by contacting Pact, Inc.
- Discuss how long students will attend high school - 4 years or until the day before their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday.
- Ask for a referral to DHS-DRS.
- Attend any informational meetings that offer information about future planning.
- Begin learning about waitlists for adult services. Some waitlists can be very long.

## 17 Years Old

- Learn about and enroll in vocational education classes.
- Establish a graduation date.
- Update transition goals in the IEP.
- Invite adult service providers to IEP meetings.
- Investigate guardianship procedures and determine what is in the best interest of your child.

## 18 Years Old

- Apply for SSI (Supplemental Security Income) and Medicaid. Learn about work incentive programs through Social Security.
- Complete an application at PACT Inc. for residential or case management assistance.
- Apply for adult services. Take time to visit all providers to find the best match for your child. Seek clear information on how un-mandated adult services differ from mandated school services. Also, be informed about current waiting lists.
- Complete the Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS) by contacting Pact, Inc., if not done previously.
- Update transition goals in IEP. Discuss services needed to best transition from high school to adult services.
- Males register for selective service.
- Attend a job fair.
- Establish legal guardianship only if deemed necessary. This should be determined based on the best interest of your child. Consultation with a lawyer specializing in disabilities and guardianship is recommended.
- Explore options for future planning or estate planning.

## 19-21 Years Old

- Schedule vocational education classes.
- Introduce budgeting and the real cost of living on your own.
- Find suitable employment that offers the desired work hours and salary.
- Ensure all necessary support services (e.g. respite, recreational, vocational) are participating in transition planning and ready to provide services immediately following graduation. Be in close contact with the providers.
- Explore and obtain any additional funding for adult programs.
- Ensure that transition planning covers all aspects of life.
- Ensure that you have a plan for medical / health coverage beyond graduation.

## **Educational Resources**

Parents and students should consider the following in preparation for college:

- Make sure psychological testing is up-to-date.
- Obtain all special testing records before high school graduation.
- Make contact with the DuPage County DHS-DRS office.
- Consider a vocational assessment as a way to amplify present and future goals.
- Be familiar with study skills that work best for your child and his/her unique learning style.
- Consult with the high school to get a good understanding of how much support is necessary for success. This should be in writing. The IEP can be a very useful tool.
- Increase independent living skills.
- Encourage part-time jobs or volunteer positions.
- Understand how the disability is connected to social expectations with peers.
- Encourage students to be their own advocates.
- Learn about Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- Get information on special exam arrangements for the ACT and/or SAT.
- Obtain two copies of all college applications.
- Contact the office that will be assisting your child with special needs at each college before applying.
- Visit colleges before making a choice.
- Consider starting college in a summer session rather than the fall.
- Consider an appointment with a qualified optometrist.
- Encourage students to have their own membership in support and advocate organizations.
- Make sure it is the student's choice to attend college.

### Questions to ask colleges about accommodations:

The following list of questions is helpful when inquiring about available services at any post-secondary institution. There are no right or wrong answers to these questions. Various post-secondary institutions provide a range of supports for students with disabilities. Your goal should be to match *your child's needs* with the *available support services* of the selected institution.

### **ADMISSION**

-What are the admission requirements for students with a disability?

### **DIAGNOSIS**

-Are campus resources available to diagnose specific disabilities?

    If so, is there a charge for this? If not, where can I go for testing

    and will it be expensive? Does student health insurance pay for obtaining a diagnosis?

    If not, will family health insurance cover the cost of a diagnosis?

-If I were diagnosed as having a disability when I was a child, do I need new testing now?

-How will having a diagnosis be of use to me?

### **TUTORING**

-For which subjects is tutoring available?

-How do I obtain a tutor?

-Is there a charge for tutoring? If so, is funding assistance available to help with the cost?

### **SEMINARS**

-Are there special seminars for students like me?

-What do they cover?

-How will they help me?

-How do I register for them?

### **CREDITED CLASSES**

-Are there classes designed for students with disabilities that I can take for credit?

-What are they?

-Are they available every term?

### **ADVOCACY AND ACCOMMODATIONS**

-Is there someone who will help me obtain accommodations if I run into a problem?

-Is there someone who can explain my rights and responsibilities to me?

-Is there a person or committee that considers petitions for modified courses of study (such as being excused from taking a foreign language or taking a lighter class load)?

-Are there student advocacy groups and/or organizations on campus?

## **PERSONAL AND CAREER COUNSELING**

- Is counseling available from someone experienced with various disabilities?
- What areas do personal and career counseling cover?

## **SUPPORT GROUPS**

- How do students with disabilities get to know other students?
- If there is a support group available, what kinds of topics are covered in the meetings?
- When and where do support groups meet?

## **LEARNING DISABILITY SPECIFIC PROGRAMMING**

- Are there programs set up just for students with learning disabilities?

## **TAPING TEXTS**

- Do you have a program for taping textbooks?
- What are my responsibilities in such a program?
- If there is no program, what do students that are unable to read print do?

## **EXTRA TUITION CHARGE**

- Is there an extra tuition charge for the services you provide to students with disabilities?
- If so, what is the charge?

## Colleges with programs for students with disabilities:

The following are only a few resources available. It is suggested that you consult your DHS-DRS Counselor as there are many other colleges and/or technical programs that may better fit your needs.

### **College of DuPage**

425 Fawell Blvd.

Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Main Campus: (630) 942-2800

Special Student Services (630) 942-2306

TDD: (630) 858-9692

[www.cod.edu](http://www.cod.edu)

Contact: Special Student Services Office

Support Services Include: Individual assessment of student needs, new student orientation, assistance with registration, accessibility information, library assistance, employment/career information, note-takers, testing accommodations (readers), tape records, access to audio recorded text books, tutoring, interpreters for the hearing impaired, access to microcomputers and adaptive equipment for the blind. Learning Disability Specialist on staff for instructional support (one 15-minute appointment per week through the Center for Independent Living).

### **Vocational Skills Program:** "Teaching Workplace Competency to Special Populations"

(630) 942-2941

TDD(630) 858-9692

[www.cod.edu/vocational](http://www.cod.edu/vocational)

Description: Vocational Skills courses have been developed specifically for students with mild to moderate cognitive impairment. These specialized classes are meant to develop entry-level employment skills and enhance independent living. They are 8-weeks long and meet for 4 hours each week on campus or at community-based sites. The target population is students 18 years or older. Students must possess manual dexterity to perform specific tasks as required by each course. Classes currently offered: Employment Skills I and II, Keyboard Skills, Computer Skills I and II, Automotive Skills, Food Service Skills, and Hotel-Housekeeping Skills.

**Elmhurst College**  
190 Prospect Ave  
Elmhurst, IL 60126  
(630) 617-3752  
Email: [nancych@elmhurst.edu](mailto:nancych@elmhurst.edu)

### **Elmhurst Life Skills Academy (ELSA)**

Description: ELSA is a 4-year commuter Life-Skills program open to students 18-25 years old with severe learning, intellectual, cognitive, physical/sensory disabilities. Students must have completed high school.

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**William Rainey Harper College**  
1200 W. Algonquin Rd.  
Palatine, IL 60067-7396  
Phone: (847) 925-6266 & TDD: (847) 397-7600  
Fax: (847) 925-6267  
[www.harpercollege.edu](http://www.harpercollege.edu)

Contact: The Access & Disability Services Office  
Support Services include: Specialized programs and services are available through the Access & Disability Services Office. They provide instructional support to improve retention, academic progress and success for students with disabilities. Accommodations may include: sign language interpreters, readers or scribes for exams, modification in test taking, note taking assistance, use of specialized technology, class relocation, modifications in procedures and conversion of materials. The College Awareness program is an orientation offered to high school juniors and seniors with disabilities.

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**Waubonsee Community College**  
Rt. 47 at Waubonsee Drive  
Sugar Grove, IL 60554  
Phone: (630) 466-7900  
TDD: (630) 466-4649  
Fax: (630) 466-4649

Contact: Access Center for Students with Disabilities, Ext.2564  
Support Services include: Individual assessment of student needs to ensure successful educational planning, new student orientation, note-takers, readers, test accommodations, taped texts, sign language interpreters, career counseling, Learning Disabilities Specialist on staff.

## Additional Training Resources

### **Donka, Inc.**

400 N. County Farm Road  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
Phone: (630) 665-8169

Services Include: Computer training and assistive technology enabling individuals with disabilities to communicate, read, write, continue education or obtain employment. Mobile services to provide assistive technology trainings and evaluations for high school students in the school setting. Offers "Train the Trainer" workshops.

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### **Assistive Technologies, Inc.**

#### **Technology Access Solutions for Work, Home & School**

1415 North Eagle Street  
Naperville, IL 60563  
Phone: (630) 527-0100

Services Include: Vocational Assessment, applications training on most software, and rehabilitation adaptations. Personalized training is provided specific to job expectations and/or learning needs of people with disabilities.

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### **Technology Center of DuPage (TCD)**

301 South Swift Road  
Addison, IL 60101  
(630) 620-8770

Contact: Dean of Students or Special Needs Coordinator

Services include: Provides a variety of technical and vocational training programs and options to high school students in DuPage County and Lyons Township.

## Vocational Resources

There are several community agencies available to students with disabilities after graduation from high school. Please note that services may begin prior to a student's actual graduation date to aid in the transition process. Most agencies encourage early contact (a year or two before graduation) so that parents and students are informed about what type of employment assistance is available after high school.

Parents and students should consider the following prior to speaking with agencies offering vocational services:

What kind of employment situation do you and your child desire?

- How much flexibility is currently available to include a work schedule?
- What kind of work environment is best?
- What skills can be offered to an employer?
- What rate of pay is needed?
- What benefits will be needed (example: insurance)?

What kind of support is needed to find and keep a job?

- Help getting a job?
- Help learning a job?
- Help keeping a job?
- Transportation training?

What kind of transportation can you provide for your child or what are the public options?

- Self transport?
- Ride from family/friend?
- Taxi?
- Public Transportation?
- Other?

Questions to ask of vocational service providers:

The following list of questions is helpful when inquiring about available services. There are no right or wrong answers to these questions. Your goal should be to match *your child's needs* with the *available support services* of the selected agency.

1. How are the services paid for? Do I have to pay?
2. How long do your services last?
3. What is the process to apply for services? Is there a waiting list? If so, how long?
4. What kind of transportation services are available? How are they paid for?
5. Do you provide services other than employment (Examples: social groups, work support groups, recreation, case management)?
6. How are parents involved?
7. What happens if a job change is necessary?

## Types of Vocational Services Offered by Community Agencies

**Vocational Evaluation** - Testing to determine vocational interests, aptitudes and training needs to be successful on a job or in another vocational goal.

**Supported Employment** - The individual is provided vocational guidance, assessment and job development to ensure a good job match. One-on-one job coaching is usually provided during the acquisition phase and is faded away as the individual becomes independent. Once an individual is performing the job independently, job coaching is reduced to intermittent follow-up and problem solving on an as-needed basis.

**Extended Services** - Long-term job coaching services for individuals who are anticipated to require job coaching to maintain employment for an indefinite period of time. Two job-coaching contacts per month is the minimum support provided.

**Work Adjustment Training** - Training on a short-term basis (up to 12 months) to assist in learning basic work skills and appropriate work habits. The training takes place in an in-house (workshop) setting or the community to prepare the person for supported or competitive employment. This program is limited in DuPage County.

**Sheltered Workshop Programs** - The agency owns and operates an industry that provides work or subcontract work in an industrial setting. Individuals participating in this program do "piece work" and may be paid according to their productivity, sometimes less than minimum wage. This may be the beginning point for many individuals to gain work skills and work behaviors. Motivated individuals may seek other employment opportunities and programs.

**Developmental Training** - A day program designed for individuals with disabilities that offers instruction and supervision. Developmental training programs focus attention on functional daily living, recreation & leisure opportunities, and various community activities. Paid work opportunities may also be available to individuals.

Agencies Offering Vocational Services in DuPage County:

**Illinois Department of Human Services-  
Division of Rehabilitation Services (DHS-DRS)**

2901 Finley, Suite 109  
Downers Grove, IL 60515  
Phone (630) 495-0500, Fax (630) 495-4841, TTY (630) 495-2294  
[www.dhs.state.il.us](http://www.dhs.state.il.us)

DHS-DRS is the state agency that provides funding to organizations for services such as vocational evaluations, supported employment services, trial work experiences, on-the-job evaluations, on-the-job training, and extended services. This is your child's "first stop" in receiving any vocational services. DHS-DRS staff also provide vocational counseling, guidance and job placement services, along with monitoring progress at the vocational programs that your child has been referred to. DHS-DRS may also provide funding for additional services that may be needed for successful employment such as assistive devices, counseling, training, tools, equipment and tutoring. Funding for some services is based on the customer and family's financial need.

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**Parents Alliance Employment Project**

2525 Cabot Drive, Suite 302  
Lisle, IL 60532  
Phone: (630) 955-2075  
TTD: (630) 955-2098  
Fax: (630) 955-2080  
[www.parents-alliance.org](http://www.parents-alliance.org)

Services provided: Supported Employment, Job-readiness/Job-maintenance workshops, and Extended Employment Services

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## Ray Graham Association

[www.ray-graham.org](http://www.ray-graham.org)

### Vocational Services

1989 University Lane, Unit J

Lisle, IL 60532

Phone: (630) 353-1692

Fax: (630) 353-1789

Services provided: Vocational Evaluation, including community-based assessments, Supported Employment, and Extended Employment Services

### Community Learning Centers (CLC)

2801 Finley Road (Central Intake Department)

Downers Grove, IL 60515

Phone: (630) 620-2222

Fax: (630) 628-2350

TDD: (630) 628-2352

Services provided: Work Adjustment Training, Developmental Training

### CLC Locations

#### Lombard

837 S. Westmore-Meyers, Lombard, IL

60148

Ph: 630-932-4287

#### Hanson Center

15 W 431 59<sup>th</sup> St., Burr Ridge, IL 60527

Ph: 630-325-3857

#### Main Street

1155 N. Main St., Lombard, IL 60148

Ph: 630-953-9574

#### Lisle

1989 University Ave., Lisle, IL 60532

Ph: 630-353-1697

#### Bloomington

304 Glen Ellyn Rd., Bloomington, IL

60108

Ph: 630-351-1024

#### Downers Grove

2777 Finley Rd., Downers Grove, IL

60515

Ph: 630-495-0289

### Pathways Program

837 S. Westmore-Meyers, Lombard, IL Ph. 630-932-4287

Description- A program that allows young adults ages 18-25 to use the community as a place to learn. It is a partnership with area high schools developed to enhance the transitional experience for recent graduates while accessing employment/adult services.

Services provided: Work Adjustment Training, Developmental Training

**Spectrum Vocational Services**

2302 Wisconsin Ave.  
Downers Grove, IL 60515  
Phone: (630) 852-7520  
[www.littlefriendsinc.com](http://www.littlefriendsinc.com)

Services provided: Vocational Evaluation, Supported Employment, Transitional Work Program, In-House Sheltered Workshop Programs, Developmental Training

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**Supported Employment Associates (SEA)**

P.O. Box 4714  
Wheaton, IL 60189-4714  
Phone: (630) 653-5662  
Fax: (630) 839-3308  
[www.SEAssociates.org](http://www.SEAssociates.org)

Services provided: Supported Employment, Extended Services

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**DuPage County Health Department**

Transitional Services Center  
422 N. Prospect  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
Phone: (630) 627-1700  
[www.dupagehealth.org](http://www.dupagehealth.org)

Services provided: Supported Employment, specifically for individuals with serious persistent mental illness, Pre-employment and job skills training, Psychosocial rehabilitation

Agencies Offering Vocational Services in Nearby Counties  
(some serve DuPage County)

**Cares Chicago**

3333 W. Arthington, Suite 139

Chicago, IL 60624

Phone: (773) 265-3300

Fax: (773) 265-3308

TTY: 773-265-3309

[www.careschicago.org](http://www.careschicago.org)

Services provided: Job-seeking skills development

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**The Association for Individual Development (AID)**

309 West New Indian Trail Ct.

Aurora, IL 60506

Phone: (630) 966-4000

Fax: (630) 844-2065

TTY: (630) 844-5063

[www.the-association.org](http://www.the-association.org)

Services provided: Supported Employment, Work Adjustment Training, Sheltered Workshop programs, Extended Services

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**Helping Hands Rehabilitation Center**

9649 W. 55<sup>th</sup> Street

Countryside, IL 60525

Phone: (708) 352-3580

[www.hhrehab.org](http://www.hhrehab.org)

Services provided: Supported Employment, Sheltered Workshop, Work Adjustment Training

## Other Agencies Offering Developmental Training

### **Marklund, Inc.**

Developmental Training at Mill Creek

1S450 Wyatt Drive

Geneva, IL 60134

Phone: (630) 593-5500

[www.marklund.org](http://www.marklund.org)

### **RRAF**

613 S. Main Street

Lombard, IL 60148

Phone: (630) 495-7723

[www.rraf.org](http://www.rraf.org)

## **Residential and Supported Living Options**

In DuPage County there are a number of different residential options for people with disabilities. In order to become a resident at a program, the first step is to open a case with PACT, Inc., which is the service coordination agency for DuPage County that determines eligibility for state-funded residential services, helps families locate appropriate providers, and requests funding on behalf of the family. If you are looking for adult services, you should contact PACT when your child is 17 ½. Please keep in mind that residential service providers may require different qualifications. It is suggested that individuals tour the different supported living and residential options before deciding.

### DUPAGE COUNTY CASE COORDINATION AGENCY

#### **PACT, Inc.**

555 E. Butterfield Road Suite 301  
Lombard, IL 60148

Phone: (630) 960-9700 TDD: (630) 960-9849

[www.pactinc.net](http://www.pactinc.net)

#### Shortcuts to Listings in this Section

- [Supported Living and Residential Options in DuPage County](#)
- [Supported Living and Residential Options in Neighboring Counties](#)
- [Respite Services](#)
- [Personal Assistance Programs](#)
- [Accessible Housing](#)

Commonly asked questions about residential and supported living situations:

**1) How many people are in the home(s)?** This will depend on the type of residential arrangement. Some will be small homes on a campus, an apartment building, individual apartments, or individual homes. A follow up question to this would be how many people share a bedroom?

**2) What is the wait list to get in?** Provider agencies keep a database of interested and eligible applicants. When an opening occurs, the provider will choose the individual with the greatest need. Families are encouraged to visit several providers and gather information so that they can decide what they want and can make an informed decision.

**3) What is the staff to resident ratio? When are staff available?** Each program provides for a different staffing pattern. The staff ratio will differ depending on the arrangement and the time of day. Some can base availability on individual needs.

**4) Will the resident have to maintain employment?** In most residential arrangements, the resident will participate in a day program or work in the community.

**5) What bills are the residents responsible for?** This varies and will depend on the type of residential arrangement and the independent living skills of the individual.

**6) Can the parents or individuals buy a house and bypass PACT Inc. and the wait lists?** No. PACT, Inc. must determine eligibility for all individuals wishing to be placed in a residential setting.

**7) Can individuals with a diagnosis of mental illness live in a residential arrangement described above?** For individuals with a primary diagnosis of mental illness, the coordination agency that is involved is the DuPage County Health Department. However, anyone with a DD diagnosis should first contact PACT, Inc.

**8) What about transportation?** Some residential service providers will have transportation available for the day program or for any other program the residents participate. Others may not provide transportation. For community jobs, public transportation, taxi service, biking or walking are commonly used.

**9) What if the person is living at home, but wants or needs additional support besides the family?** There are respite programs and personal assistance programs that help people live independently in their homes. For information on home-based support services, contact PACT, Inc.

Please familiarize yourself with the following abbreviations as they will be used to describe each agency's available services in the next section.

**ICF - Intermediate Care Facility.** These facilities are for individuals who need assistance and training in daily living, self care skills and require 24-hour supervision. Generally, medical staff is available 24 hours a day. An ICF may be a nursing home setting, small individual homes on a campus or in a dormitory setting.

**CLF - Community Living Facility.** These facilities are for individuals who need guidance and support in most areas (e.g. social, vocational, daily living), however, not constant supervision. The emphasis is to prepare residents for more independent living. CLF's are usually in apartment settings. Staff is available on site.

**CILA - Community Integrated Living Arrangement.** The amount of supervision provided in a CILA varies from intermittent to 24-hour support depending on the need of the individual. Individuals live in apartments, condominiums or houses that are integrated into the community. People who reside in a CILA may have medical needs that can be addressed by intermittent nursing. Eight persons or fewer reside in this type of setting.

**SLA - Supported Living Arrangement.** These arrangements are for individuals that need intermittent support from staff. Staff is not always on site and individuals live in homes, apartments, town homes or condos.

## Residential and Supported Living Providers in DuPage County

### **Alden Village**

267 E. Lake Street  
Bloomington, IL 60108  
Phone: (630) 529-3350

[www.aldenvillagecarefacility.com](http://www.aldenvillagecarefacility.com)

-ICF- Serves newborn through adult, cognitive disabilities, neurological impairments, and/or physical disabilities

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### **Clare Woods Academy Cupertino Facility**

801 W. Bartlett Road  
Bartlett, IL 60103  
Phone: (630) 289-4221

[www.blcinc.org](http://www.blcinc.org)

-CILA - Serves young men ages 18 – 40

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### **DuPage County Convalescent Center**

400 N. County Farm Road  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
Phone: (630) 665-6400

[www.co.dupage.il.us/convo](http://www.co.dupage.il.us/convo)

-ICF-Serves adults with disabilities

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### **DuPage County Health Department**

111 N. County Farm Road  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
Phone: (630) 682-7400

[www.dupagehealth.org](http://www.dupagehealth.org)

-ICF, CILA, SLA, CFL- Serves children and adults with mental illness

**Little Friends**

140 N. Wright Street

Naperville, IL 60540

Phone: (630) 355-6533

[www.littlefriendsinc.com](http://www.littlefriendsinc.com)

-CILA - Serves individuals with developmental, emotional or social disabilities

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**Philip J. Rock Center and School**

818 DuPage Blvd.

Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Phone: (800) 771-1158

[www.project-reach-illinois.org/prc](http://www.project-reach-illinois.org/prc)

-ICF-Serves infants through age 21, children who are both deaf and blind

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**Marklund**

1645 South Prairie Avenue

Bloomington, IL 60108

Phone: (630) 529-2871

[www.marklund.org](http://www.marklund.org)

-ICF- Serves children and adults with mental retardation, physical disabilities, and that are non-ambulatory.

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**Ray Graham Association for People for Disabilities**

2801 Finley Road

Downers Grove, IL 60515

Phone: (630) 620-2222

[www.ray-graham.org](http://www.ray-graham.org)

-ICF, CILA, SLA- Serves infant into adulthood adult, primarily individuals with developmental disabilities.

Supported Living and Residential Options in  
Neighboring Counties

**Association for Individual Development (AID)**

309 W. New Indian Trail Court  
Aurora, IL 60506  
Phone: (630) 844-5040  
Fax (630) 844-9011  
[www.the-association.org](http://www.the-association.org)

-CLF, SLA, CILA- Serves individuals with developmental disabilities and mental illness.

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**Community Support Services, Inc.**

9021 Ogden Avenue  
Brookfield, IL 60513  
Phone: (708) 354-4547

[www.communitysupportservices.org](http://www.communitysupportservices.org)

-ICF, CILA- Serves children and adults with developmental disabilities residing in Southeast DuPage County.

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**Helping Hands**

9649 W. 55th Street  
Countryside, IL 60525  
Phone: (708) 352-3580

[www.hhrehab.org](http://www.hhrehab.org)

-ICF, SLA, CILA, CLF- Serves infants through adults with developmental disabilities.

## **Respite Services**

Respite services are offered to families to provide relief from caretaking responsibilities.

**In-home respite** - This service is designed to provide intensive to non-intensive support services to help individuals remain in their own homes.

**Out-of-home respite** - This service provides supervision and care for individuals in a group setting for a portion of a day. Other programs similar may be called group respite.

### **CoACH Care Center**

7 South 721 Route 53

Naperville, IL 60540

(630) 960-2467

[www.coachcarecenter.org](http://www.coachcarecenter.org)

-Serves infancy through 18 years of age, medically fragile

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### **DuPage County Health Department Intensive Outreach Unit**

800 Roosevelt Road

Building B - Suite 406

Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

(630) 231-0020

[www.dupagehealth.org](http://www.dupagehealth.org)

-Provides respite for individuals with mental illness

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### **Association for Individual Development**

309 W. New Indian Trail Court

Aurora, IL 60506

Phone: (630) 844-5040

[www.the-association.org](http://www.the-association.org)

-Short term in-home respite for people with developmental disabilities.

**Community Support Services Inc.**

9021 Ogden Avenue

Brookfield, IL 60513

Phone: (708) 354-4547 or TDD (708) 354-8875

[www.communitysupportservices.org](http://www.communitysupportservices.org)

-Serves children and adults with developmental disabilities residing in southeast DuPage County.

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**Little Friends**

140 N. Wright Street

Naperville, IL 60540

Phone: (630) 355-6533

[www.littlefriendsinc.com](http://www.littlefriendsinc.com)

-Serves children age 3 to 21 with severe disabilities.

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**Marklund**

164 Prairie Avenue

Bloomington, IL 60108

Phone: (630) 529-2871

[www.marklund.org](http://www.marklund.org)

-Serves children and adults with mental retardation, physical disabilities, and that are non-ambulatory.

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**Ray Graham Association for People with Disabilities**

2801 Finley Road

Downers Grove, IL 60515

Phone: (630) 620-2222 or TDD (630) 628-2352

[www.ray-graham.org](http://www.ray-graham.org)

-In-home and out of home respite services for children and adults with developmental disabilities. Offers a flexible respite voucher for families.

## Personal Assistance Programs and Accessible Housing

Personal assistance programs can assist and support people with disabilities to remain in their homes. Within this category, accessible housing in the DuPage area has been listed. Accessible housing is defined as housing designed to accommodate wheelchairs.

### Personal Assistance Programs

**Department of Human Services-  
Division of Rehabilitation Services (DHS-DRS)**

2901 S. Finley Road Suite 109

Downers Grove, IL 60515

Phone: (630) 495-0500 ext. 247 or TTY (630) 495-2294

[www.dhs.state.il.us/ors/hsp/](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/ors/hsp/)

-Serves people with disabilities up to age 60 and assist them to live independently in their homes.

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**DuPage Center for Independent Living**

739 Roosevelt Road Building 8 Suite 109

Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Phone: (630) 469-2300

[www.dupagecil.org](http://www.dupagecil.org)

-Information and referral, peer counseling, skill training and advocacy.

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**DuPage Housing Authority**

711 E. Roosevelt Rd.

Wheaton, IL 60187

Phone: (630) 690-3555

-Subsidized housing.

**Access Living**  
614 W. Roosevelt Road  
Chicago, IL 60607  
Phone: (312) 253-7000 or TDD (312) 253-7002  
[www.accessliving.org](http://www.accessliving.org)

-Training and consultants for independent living.

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## Accessible Housing in DuPage County

To get an accurate listing, it is best to visit the DuPage Center for Independent Living (listed above). Some apartment finders may indicate if the complex is wheelchair accessible. The apartments listed here were specifically designed for wheelchair access. It is best to visit in person and do your own assessment of the housing.

**Maple Court**  
1135 W. Ogden  
Naperville, IL  
Phone: (630) 357-3696

**Katharine Manor**  
1141 Iroquois  
Naperville, IL  
Phone: (630) 357-0077

## **Advocacy Services and Agencies**

Advocacy services are designed to help you and are best used for consulting, assisting when difficult and confusing situations arise (e.g. pursuing Social Security Benefits), and for providing information on your rights. An advocate can be a great support for an individual with a disability and their families. When choosing an advocacy service/agency, please remember to inquire about their expertise, fees and how their assistance is provided (e.g. hands on assistance vs. telephone consultation).

### **DuPage Center for Independent Living**

739 Roosevelt Road Building 8, Suite 109

Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Phone: (630) 469-2300

Fax: (630) 469-2606

TTY (630) 960-9687

Video Relay (630) 469-2605

[www.dupagecil.org](http://www.dupagecil.org)

Services provided: Resource information, advocacy services, and self-empowerment opportunities for people with disabilities.

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### **Everyone is Welcome, Inc.**

Mark Doyle

712 Westfield Drive

St. Charles, IL 60174

Phone: (630) 302-0970

E-mail: [eiwelcome@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eiwelcome@sbcglobal.net)

[www.eiwelcome.com](http://www.eiwelcome.com)

Services provided: Consultation services to increase the inclusion of persons with disabilities.

**Great Lakes ADA & Accessible I**

Peter Berg

UIC-Institute on Disability and Human Development

1640 West Roosevelt Rd., Room 405

Chicago, IL 60608

Phone: (312) 413-1407 or (800) 949-4232

[www.adagreatlakes.org](http://www.adagreatlakes.org)

Services provided: Consultation and interpretation on issues related to the Americans with Disabilities Act and information technology.

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**Equip for Equality, Inc.**

20 North Michigan Ave, Suite 300

Chicago, IL 60602

Phone: (800) 537-2632 or (312) 341-0022

Fax: (312) 341-0295

[contactus@equipforequality.org](mailto:contactus@equipforequality.org)

[www.equipforequality.org](http://www.equipforequality.org)

Services provided: Comprehensive advocacy and legal assistance with the focus of advancing the human and civil rights of Americans with disabilities

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**Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Commission (IGAC)**

West Suburban Regional Office

P.O. Box 7009

Hines, IL 60141

Phone: (708) 338-7500

Fax: (708) 338-7505

Intake Contact: (866) 274-8023

TTY Intake: (866) 333-3362

[www.state.il.us/igac/](http://www.state.il.us/igac/)

Services provided: Protection and enforcement of the rights of individuals with disabilities through: Office of State Guardian (appointed “guardian of last resort” for a person with a disability) and Legal Advocacy Service (legal advice and representation)

## **Guardianship Services Associates**

41 A South Blvd.  
Oak Park, IL 60302  
Phone: (708) 386-5398  
Fax: (708) 386-5970

Offers counseling information and referral related to guardianship and alternatives to guardianship. Can process guardianship in Cook Co. courts, but can provide information to anyone.

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### **The Dignity Group**

Thomas J. Reilly  
1163 E. Ogden, Suite 705-354  
Naperville, IL 60363  
Phone: (630) 681-1119  
dignitygroup@uus.net

Services provided: Advocacy services and supports as well as family planning services for people with disabilities.

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## Guardianship Information

**What is guardianship?** A guardian is someone legally vested with the power to make decisions on behalf of their ward.

**Guardianship is not automatic.** Many parents of young adults with severe disabilities are surprised to learn that, after their child reaches adulthood (age 18), they (the parents) are no longer legal guardians. Parental guardianship of minor children is a given, unless taken away by the court. Guardianship of any adult must be granted by the court.

Adults with severely disabilities that remain in the family home are, for all practical purposes, the responsibility of his or her parents. However, in the eyes of the law he or she is competent until proven otherwise. This is true even in cases where most people would agree that the person is clearly incapable of self-direction.

**Persons without guardians are legally capable of making their own decisions.** The fact that parents are not legal guardians may not cause problems for the family in many circumstances; most adult service providers will naturally include family members in decision-making and planning. However, it is important to realize that, without legal guardianship, parents do not have a legal right to enforce their decisions about their adult child. Service providers such as hospitals, residential programs, vocational programs, etc. are legally obligated to treat a service recipient as capable of making his or her own decisions unless that person has been adjudicated incompetent.

For the most part, this just means that the young adult will have to sign (or mark) consent forms, releases, etc. himself in order for them to be legally valid. This usually does not pose a problem. If, on the other hand, a young adult who is disabled does not agree with his parents about a decision (for instance, where to live, where to work, with whom to associate, etc.), the service provider has no legal right to override his decision in favor of the parents' wishes. Similarly, a person who has not been declared incompetent has the right to refuse permission for his parents to receive information from service providers.

When parents are divorced, or the family disagrees about important decisions for the young adult with a disability, lack of guardianship can become a volatile issue. Without guardianship, service providers have no legal right to treat one family member as the "official decision-maker" for the person. This can be very frustrating for a parent who has been responsible for this person throughout most of his or her life.

**Why obtain guardianship?** If a person is incapable of making or communicating responsible or safe decisions, guardianship puts this decision-making power in the hands of someone more capable.

**Types of guardianship.** The courts differentiate between guardianship of the person and of the estate. *Guardianship of the person* gives the guardian power to make decisions about personal life, such as where the person should live, what medical procedures they should undergo, whether they may marry, etc. *Guardianship of the estate* gives the guardian the right to make decisions about the management of the person's property and finances. Plenary guardianship includes both person and estate.

*Co-guardianship* is also available and encouraged as an option. In that case, more than one person shares the responsibilities of guardian: for instance, a mother and father, or a parent and sibling of the person. For older parents, co-guardianship with a non disabled sibling can make a lot of sense because it provides a natural way to pass on the guardianship responsibilities upon the event of a parent's death. The court will not automatically award guardianship to other family members if the guardian passes away. If no one petitions the court to become guardian, the person will become a ward of the Office of State Guardian.

*Limited guardianship* is another option. Limited guardianship is a court order customized to fit the precise needs of the individual with a disability. Every family should consider limited guardianship prior to pursuing plenary, person, or estate guardianship.

**An alternative to guardianship.** *Durable Power of Attorney* is an alternative to guardianship. Individuals who are in need of only minimal intervention by a substitute decision maker may be more appropriately protected by use of a Durable Power of Attorney either of the person or of property or both. This does not require a court hearing.

**How to seek guardianship.** To obtain guardianship, the potential guardian must first petition the court to have the person declared incompetent. Although the term “incompetent” sounds pejorative, all it means in a legal context is that the person is not able to make or communicate responsible and safe decisions unassisted.

If the court accepts the petition, a guardian ad litem will be appointed. This is usually an attorney, selected by the court, who is responsible for overseeing the person in question until a permanent guardian is appointed. Usually, the guardian ad litem does little beyond meeting the person and giving the court an opinion as to whether there is any reason to consider the need for guardianship.

At the same time, a physician’s statement must be obtained certifying that the person is permanently and significantly disabled to the point of being incapable of self-direction.

If these steps support the contention that the person needs guardianship, and no one opposes the petition to have the person declared incompetent, the court will issue a declaration to that effect and award guardianship. Unless there are other parties seeking guardianship, or opposing the award of guardianship to the person who initiated the proceedings, the court will simply give guardianship to the person requesting it.

**Where to find assistance in seeking guardianship.** If the family has a lawyer, it may be easiest to retain him or her to initiate the petition to the court. If the family has no lawyer, or is concerned about cost, they should contact the Office of State Guardian for information about how to proceed. Some legal assistance groups are available to help families obtain guardianship at less than the usual legal cost. Families are encouraged to use an attorney experienced in dealing with persons with disabilities and guardianship.

The following is a list of experienced attorneys in working with Individuals with disabilities and their families. This information does not imply endorsement by the DuPage County Transition Planning Committee. Families should explore options and make decisions that fit their needs.

<p>Huck Bouma Attorneys at Law 1755 S. Naperville Rd. Suite 200 Wheaton, IL 60189 Phone: (630) 221-1755 Fax: (630) 221-1756 <a href="http://www.huckbouma.com">www.huckbouma.com</a></p>	<p>Joe Monahan Matt Cohen 55 West Monroe, Suite 3700 Chicago, IL 60603 Phone: (312) 419-0252 Fax (312) 419-7428 <a href="http://www.monahan-cohen.com">www.monahan-cohen.com</a></p>
<p>Darrell Jordan Edwards, Jordan &amp; O'Connor 6 W. Downer Place, PO Box 908 Aurora, IL 60507 Phone: (630) 897-1534</p>	<p>Steve Perlis 3345 N. Arlington Heights Rd., Suite D Arlington Heights, IL 60004 Phone: (847) 818-1138 Fax: (847) 818-1128 <a href="http://www.perliselderlaw.com">www.perliselderlaw.com</a></p>
<p>Steve Carbon Kupish &amp; Carbon, Ltd. Attorney at Law 201 N. Church Rd. Bensenville, IL 60106 Phone: (630) 595-4520 Fax: (630) 595 4598 <a href="http://www.mediation-arbitration-trials.com">www.mediation-arbitration-trials.com</a></p>	<p>Sharon Rudy 405 W. State Street Rockford, IL 61101 Phone: (815) 962-1910</p>
<p>Theresa Varnet, P.C. Spain, Spain, and Varnet 33 N. Dearborn, Suite 2220 Chicago, IL 60602 Phone: (312) 220-9112 Fax: (312) 220-9261</p>	<p>Howard Weisman 500 Skokie Blvd., Suite 350 Northbrook, IL 60062 Phone: (847) 564-0001</p>
<p>Mark Epstein 33 N. Dearborn, Suite 801 Chicago, IL 60602-1196 Phone: (312) 782-3193</p>	<p>Richard J. Tarulis 101 N. Washington St. Naperville, IL 60540 Phone: (630) 355-2101 Fax: (630) 355-7843 <a href="http://www.napervillelaw.com">www.napervillelaw.com</a></p>
<p>Suzanne High Renn &amp; High Chartered Law Firm 59 Ogden Ave. Clarendon Hills, IL 60514 Phone: (630) 321-1460</p>	<p>L. Mark Russell 820 Davis St., Suite 215 Evanston, IL 60201 (847) 869-8868 (847) 692-1965</p>

## **Financial Assistance Programs**

The following organizations are sources of financial support for general and medical needs. Many students with severe disabilities will eventually be eligible for the income and health programs under the Social Security Administration (SSI, SSDI, Medicaid and/or Medicare). Specific eligibility criteria should be discussed with each organization. Sources of financial assistance for specific needs such as educational or vocational services may be listed in other sections of this guide also.

Because of ongoing systematic changes, the DuPage County Transition Planning Committee directs your attention to the websites of each agency to view the most current information available.

### Questions to ask sources of financial assistance:

- What proof of my financial situation or disabling condition is required?
- What happens to the financial/medical benefits if I get a job?
- How often is my eligibility for benefits reviewed?
- How are benefits affected if I live at home with my parents?
- What do I need to do to continue receiving the financial benefits?
- What records need to be turned in regularly?
- What changes in my situation need to be reported?

**SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**  
**1-800-772-1213 or 1-800-325-0778 (TTY)**  
[www.ssa.gov/chicago/illinois.htm](http://www.ssa.gov/chicago/illinois.htm)

#### Local Office Locations:

Aurora, Bloomingdale, and Woodridge

To begin the application process, you may call 1-800-772-1213.

Assistance may also be available through townships. Contact your local office for information on what types of services they provide.

Addison Township  
[www.addisontownship.com](http://www.addisontownship.com)  
(630) 530-8161

Lisle Township  
[www.lisletownship.com](http://www.lisletownship.com)  
(630) 968-2087

Wayne Township  
[www.waynetwp-il.org](http://www.waynetwp-il.org)  
(630) 231-7173

Bloomington Township  
[www.bloomingtontownship.com](http://www.bloomingtontownship.com)  
(630) 529-9993

Milton Township  
[www.twp.milton.il.us](http://www.twp.milton.il.us)  
(630) 668-1616

Winfield Township  
[www.winfieldtownship.com](http://www.winfieldtownship.com)  
(630) 231-3591

Downers Grove Township  
[www.twp.downers-grove.il.us](http://www.twp.downers-grove.il.us)  
(630) 968 0451

Naperville Township  
[www.napervilletownship.com](http://www.napervilletownship.com)  
(630) 355-2786

York Township  
[www.yorktwp.com](http://www.yorktwp.com)  
(630) 620-2400

Townships administer the following programs:

- General Assistance is a source of funds for single adults actively looking for work, having no other ongoing source of income, who do not qualify for Public Aid.
- Limited one-time Emergency Financial Assistance in a 12-month period for rent, mortgage, utility, or medications.
- LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program) will provide a one-time benefit to eligible households to be used for energy bills. The amount of the benefit is determined by income, household size, fuel type and geographic location.

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### Illinois Department of Human Services

(630) 530-1120 or (630) 530-1135 for TTY

146 W. Roosevelt Rd., Suite 2

Villa Park, IL 60181

[www.dhs.state.il.us](http://www.dhs.state.il.us)

DHS administers a variety of welfare programs for people who need money and medical care to help take care of themselves and their children. Some of these include:

- Food Stamps
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).
- Aid to the aged, blind or disabled
- Women Infant Children (WIC)
- Medicaid
- Health Benefits for Workers with disabilities (HBWD)

## **Health Benefits for Workers with Disabilities**

(217) 558-6067

[www.hbwdillinois.com](http://www.hbwdillinois.com)

- The goal of this program is to help people with disabilities return to work with full Medicaid healthcare benefits.
- HBWD encourages people to return to work or to increase the number of hours they are currently working.
- Eligible Illinois residents between the ages of 16 and 64, who have a disability and who are employed can purchase HBWD.
- Income and assets can be higher than Medicaid normally allows

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## **Illinois Department of Employment Security**

837 S. Westmore-Meyers

Lombard, IL 60148

(630) 495-4345

[www.ides.state.il.us](http://www.ides.state.il.us)

- Unemployment Insurance Benefits

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## **Illinois Comprehensive Health Insurance (CHIP)**

1-866-851-2751

[www.chip.state.il.us](http://www.chip.state.il.us)

- A health insurance program for people who are unable to obtain traditional health insurance because they are perceived as being high-risk due to their health or past medical condition.

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## **Division of Specialized Care for Children**

DuPage County Regional Office

8205 S. Cass Ave, Suite 110

Darien, IL 60561

(630) 964-9887 or (630) 964-9603 for TTY

[www.uic.edu/hsc/dscc](http://www.uic.edu/hsc/dscc)

- DSCC is Illinois' Title V agency for specialized treatment and rehabilitation of children with certain chronic physical disabilities and health impairments.
- To be eligible for assistance with the cost of medical care children must be under 21 years of age, must meet certain residency and financial criteria, and must have a diagnosed chronic medical condition which is amenable to treatment and falls within one of 11 impairment categories.

### **Circuit Breaker**

Voice/TTY (800) 528-2000

[www.cbrx.il.gov](http://www.cbrx.il.gov)

- Circuit Breaker and Pharmaceutical Assistance programs are funded through the Illinois Department of Aging. The Circuit Breaker Program provides assistance with paying property tax and mobile home tax for people with disabilities and seniors who reside in Illinois. The Pharmaceutical Assistance Program offers assistance with paying for certain medications.

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### **Lifeline and Link Up**

[www.universalservice.org/li/consumers/lifeline\\_support.asp](http://www.universalservice.org/li/consumers/lifeline_support.asp)

- Lifeline provides qualified customers with discounted phone service and the ability to add additional services and features. Linkup provides for discounted new phone installation.
- To qualify for Lifeline or Link Up a household must participate in one of the following: Food Stamps, Medicaid, SSI, Federal Public Housing/Section 8, LIHEAP, TANF, or National School Lunch Program (NSL)

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### **Access DuPage**

(630) 510-8720

[www.accessdupage.org](http://www.accessdupage.org)

- Access DuPage is a charitable program established to provide assistance to eligible persons in DuPage County. Access DuPage and its participating physicians will try to provide a “medical home” where clients can receive primary care medical services, routine x-ray services and prescription drugs at a small cost until they become insured.
- To be eligible for Access DuPage the applicant must be a resident of DuPage County for at least 90 days, under age 65, have a household income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, and not be eligible for any other health insurance programs.
- All persons in Access DuPage are enrolled for a one-year period. At the end of each one-year period of eligibility, persons may re-enroll if they still meet eligibility requirements

## Recreational Resources

These services are offered to individuals of all ages with special needs including learning disabilities, physical disabilities, hearing or visual limitations, and cognitive disabilities for social and recreational activities. In addition to the agencies listed below, consider the fact that many local park districts also provide recreational opportunities, with support if necessary.

Parents and individuals should consider the following questions prior to contacting recreation associations and programs:

Do you have a targeted time for recreational activities?

- Summer
- Evenings
- Vacation periods
- Throughout the year

What types of recreational activities are you in search of for your child?

- Large group, small group, and/or individual activities
- Community-based activities
- On-site activities
- Organized activities
- Flexible activities
- Physical activities
- Creative activities
- Integrated activities

What are the goals for joining a recreation program?

- Develop new friendships
- Become involved in the community
- Increase social skills
- Learn new recreational skills

What type of transportation can do provide your child?

- Self transport (child drives)
- Ride from family or friend
- Taxi or public transportation

Questions to ask each agency that provides recreational activities:

- What is the targeted age group?
- What is the targeted population (i.e., level of disability)?
- Do you offer types of transportation services? If so, do I need to pay?
- Do you offer integrated programs?
- What are your fees? What do they include? Do you offer financial assistance programs?
- How much supervision is provided at activities?
- Typically, how many participants attend events?
- What times of the day do you offer programs? What times of the year do you offer programs?
- Are there residential boundaries for participants in your programs?
- Can you send me a newsletter or bulletin from your organization regarding incoming events?

**Ray Graham Association**

15W431 59th St.

Burr Ridge, IL 60527

Phone: (630) 325-3857

[www.ray-graham.org](http://www.ray-graham.org)

Areas Served:

Burr Bridge, Hinsdale, Old Brook Park District, Willowbrook, Countryside, Pleasant Dale, Elmhurst, Westchester

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**Northeast DuPage Special Recreation Association (NEDSRA)**

770 W. Centennial Place

Addison, IL 60101

Phone: (630) 620-4500 or (630) 620-7477 (TDD)

[www.nedsra.org](http://www.nedsra.org)

Areas Served:

Addison, Bensenville, Lombard, Glendale Heights, Itasca, Medinah, Oakbrook Terrace, Schiller Park, Villa Park, Wood Dale, Butterfield Park District

**Southeast Association for Special Parks and Recreation (SEASPAR)**

4500 Belmont  
Downers Grove, IL 60515  
Phone: (630) 960-7600  
[www.seaspar.org](http://www.seaspar.org)

Areas Served:

Downers Grove, Darien, Lisle, Westmont, Woodridge, Clarendon Hills, Village of Indian Head Park, LaGrange, LaGrange Park, Village of Western Springs

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**Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA)**

116 N. Schmale  
Carol Stream, IL 60188  
Phone: (630) 681-0962 / Fax: (630) 681-1262  
[www.wdsra.com](http://www.wdsra.com)

Areas Served:

Glen Ellyn, Naperville, West Chicago, Wheaton, Bloomingdale, Winfield, Warrenville, Roselle, Carol Stream

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**Trips, Inc.**

PO Box 10885  
Eugene, Oregon 97440  
1-800-686-1013

- Provides travel outings to adults of various abilities in a safe, respectful and fun atmosphere.

Areas Served:

U.S.A.

## **Counseling and Crisis Intervention Resources**

In general, for people with disabilities, counseling can be helpful when having to cope with stresses in their lives. Most social service agencies provide in-house counseling services or contract out to counselors. If you need assistance finding appropriate services, contacting a referral source or PACT, Inc. is a good first step. We have listed some providers and individual counselors that have experience working specifically with people with disabilities. Other counseling services are available and you should consult one of the mentioned referral sources or directories for additional listings.

### **DuPage County Health Department-Mental Health Division Crisis Unit 24-Hour Emergency**

111 N County Farm Rd  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
Phone: (630) 682-7400  
[www.dupagehealth.org](http://www.dupagehealth.org)

- Serves chronically mentally ill adults, mentally ill and seriously emotionally disturbed children and adolescents, and substance abusing adults and adolescents.
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### **Metropolitan Family Services of DuPage**

229 E. Willow  
Wheaton, IL  
(630) 784-4800  
[www.metrofamily.org](http://www.metrofamily.org)

- Counseling available on a sliding fee scale
  - Bilingual therapists available
- 

### **DuPage County Department of Human Resources-Human Service Division**

421 North County Farm Road  
Wheaton, IL  
Phone: (630) 682-7000  
TDD: (630) 682-6926  
[www.dupagecrisis.org](http://www.dupagecrisis.org)

- Provides up to date information and referral to county residents on health and social services. Available social workers.

**DuPage County Medical Society**

498 Hillside Ave.

Glen Ellyn, IL

Phone: (630) 858-9603

[www.dcmsdocs.org](http://www.dcmsdocs.org)

- Referrals to medical doctors, no fee

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**DuPage Psychologists Referral Service**

579 West North Avenue Suite 103

Elmhurst, IL 60126

Phone: (630) 279-5757

- Referral Service

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**DuPage Center for Independent Living**

739 Roosevelt Rd. Building 8 Suite 109

Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Phone: (630) 469-2300

[www.dupagecil.org](http://www.dupagecil.org)

- Provides information on counseling services. Provides education and advocacy for people with disabilities.

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**Lutheran Child and Family Services**

333 W. Lake St.

Addison, IL 60101

(630) 628-6448

[www.lcfs.org](http://www.lcfs.org)

- Counseling available on a sliding fee scale.

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**Catholic Charities**

26 W. St. Charles Rd.

Lombard, IL

(630) 495-8005

[www.catholiccharities.net](http://www.catholiccharities.net)

- Counseling available on a sliding fee scale.

Agencies and Individuals Specializing in Counseling Services  
for People with Disabilities

**Mary Alice Povolny, Ph.D.**  
Licensed Clinical Psychologist  
331 N. York Road  
Elmhurst, IL 60126  
Phone: (630) 415-0780

- Specializing in anxiety disorders, depression, stress and grief issues for people with disabilities. Family counseling for families who have a child with a disability.

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**SMS Career Counseling and Psychotherapy**

Suzanne M.Sullivan, MS, LCPC, CRC  
621 Plainfield Road  
Willowbrook, IL 60521  
Phone / Fax (630) 655-9457

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**Little Friends Inc.**

140 N Wright  
Naperville, IL  
Phone: (630) 355-6533  
[www.littlefriendsinc.org](http://www.littlefriendsinc.org)

Self Help Groups

**National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of DuPage County**

1403 N Main, Suite 209  
Wheaton, IL  
Phone: (630) 752-0066  
[www.namidupage.org](http://www.namidupage.org)

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**West Suburban CHADD**

(630) 961-0161  
[www.chaddonline.org](http://www.chaddonline.org)

- Support group in the western suburbs for children and/or adults with ADD/ADHD

## Transportation Services

Accessing and utilizing transportation services in DuPage County has traditionally been quite challenging. However, being prepared with appropriate questions and a good base of information can make the process much simpler.

The following are questions or topics that should be considered prior to contacting a transportation provider:

1. Are transportation services needed on a regular basis?
  - Daily
  - Weekly
  - Time Specific
2. What is the approximate distance needed to travel?
  - A few miles
  - Various miles
3. What type of advance notice can be provided to the transportation provider?
  - A week
  - A day
4. Are special accommodations necessary to travel?
  - Wheelchair lift
  - Door-to-door service
  - Personalized training or assistance

The following are questions to ask the transportation provider:

1. What is the targeted age group and/or population served?
2. How much notice is necessary for a reservation?
3. What are your fees and do you offer any special rates?
4. Are there other people in the vehicle?
5. What type of accommodations do you have available for people with disabilities (e.g. wheelchair lifts, travel training)?
6. What times and/or days are the transportation services available?
7. Are there any residential or mileage boundaries for your services?
8. Is there a necessary qualifying process to receive the transportation service?

## DuPage County Public Transportation Information

PACE ([www.pacebus.com](http://www.pacebus.com)) and Metra ([www.metrarail.com](http://www.metrarail.com)) are DuPage County's public transportation providers. PACE offers fixed bus routes, Dial-A-Ride Services and ADA Paratransit Services, while Metra offers transportation by rail. Due to the fact that routes and schedules change frequently, the DuPage Transition Planning Committee directs your attention to the websites listed for the most current information available. In addition, there is an abundance of information at the County's website regarding transportation options.

Click here to view this information in PDF form:

<http://www.dupageco.org/emplibrary/2009Chapter23Transportation.pdf>

Outlined below, you will find descriptions of each type of service followed by contact information and application procedures.

**Fixed bus route:** A bus that travels the same route(s) consistently on the same days and times. There are many fixed routes in DuPage County. The RTA Travel Information Center should be contacted to determine if there is a fixed route that is accessible to your situation.

**Dial-A-Ride Services:** These services are door-to-door services that include Dial-A-Ride buses and subsidized taxi options. Most Dial-A-Ride projects are funded through a joint effort between PACE and municipalities or townships.

**Pace ADA Paratransit Services:** These are services specifically for individuals with disabilities. This program is part of Pace's program to comply with the American's with Disabilities Act. Persons must be found outlook for this service. Registration is handled by the Regional Transit Authority (RTA).

### **Ride DuPage**

Ride DuPage is a program that combines transportation services operated or subsidized by many villages, cities and townships. For specific information in your community, contact you local city hall or township office.

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### **Contact Information**

Dial-A-Ride  
847-364-7223  
TDD: 847-364-5093

RTA Travel Information Center  
Phone: (630) 836-7000  
[www.rtachicago.com](http://www.rtachicago.com)  
TDD Line (All DuPage Services)  
– (800) 713-7415

Ride DuPage  
(800)-713-7445

### **Reduced Fare Card**

A reduced fare will allow a person with a disability to use PACE Dial-A-Ride services and Metra trains at a reduced cost. Contact the RTA Travel Information Center at (312) 917-0734 for an application.

### **ADA Paratransit Registration**

All persons must be registered and found eligible for ADA Paratransit Services. To request an application, contact (312) 663-4357. This will also qualify persons with disabilities for a reduced fare.

### **Ride DuPage**

Because Ride DuPage is a program based on sponsorship from local agencies and municipalities, you will need to contact DuPage County at 630.682.7000 to determine if your community participates.

## **Private Transportation Providers**

In addition to public transportation, there are several private providers in DuPage County, however, these are more expensive methods of transportation. Contact them for rates and availability.

Comfort Coach (630) 285-1900

303 Taxi (630) 368-0303

Range of Motion (630) 871-8696

No One Left Behind (630) 340-3419

## Appendix

### COMMON DEFINITIONS & ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ADA</b> - Americans with Disabilities Act	<b>LD</b> - Learning disability
<b>CASE</b> - Cooperative Association for Special Education	<b>MI</b> - Mentally Ill
<b>CILA</b> - Community Integrated Living Arrangement	<b>MR</b> - Mental Retardation
<b>CLF</b> - Community Living Facility	<b>NDSEC</b> - Northeast DuPage Special Education Cooperative
<b>COD</b> - College of DuPage	<b>NEDSRA</b> - Northeast DuPage Special Recreation Association
<b>CRA</b> - Community Residential Alternative	<b>OT</b> - Occupational therapy
<b>CSLA</b> - Community Supported Living Arrangement	<b>PT</b> - Physical therapy
<b>DD</b> - Developmental disability	<b>PUNS</b> – Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services
<b>DHS</b> - Department of Human Services	<b>SASED</b> – School Association for Special Education in DuPage County
<b>DHS-DRS</b> - Department of Human Services- Division of Rehabilitation Services	<b>SEASPAR</b> - Southeast Association for Special Parks and Recreation
<b>DHS-DDD</b> - Department of Human Services- Division of Developmental Disabilities	<b>SEP</b> - Supported Employment Program
<b>DT</b> - Developmental training	<b>SLA</b> - Supported Living Arrangement
<b>ED</b> - Emotionally Disturbed	<b>SSDI</b> - Social Security Disability Income
<b>EMH</b> - Educable Mentally Handicapped	<b>SSI</b> - Supplemental Security Income
<b>ICF</b> - Intermediate Care Facility	<b>STEP</b> – Secondary Transitional Experience Program
<b>IEP</b> - Individual Education Plan	<b>TCD</b> – Technology Center of DuPage
<b>IETC</b> – Illinois Employment and Training Center	<b>TMH</b> - Trainable Mentally Handicapped
<b>ISBE</b> - Illinois State Board of Education	<b>TPC</b> - Transition Planning Committee
<b>LADSE</b> - LaGrange Area Department of Special Education	<b>WDSRA</b> – Western DuPage Special Recreation Association

## Information & Referral Telephone Numbers

American Association of People with Disabilities  
(AAPD)

[www.aapd-dc.org](http://www.aapd-dc.org)

AbilityLinks.org

[www.Abilitylinks.org](http://www.Abilitylinks.org)

Abledata

Phone: 1-800-227-0216

[www.abledata.com](http://www.abledata.com)

ADA Watch

[www.adawatch.org](http://www.adawatch.org)

Association for Retarded Citizens

Phone: 1-800-433-5255

[www.thearcofil.org](http://www.thearcofil.org)

Autism Community Connection

Naperville, Illinois

[www.autismcommunityconnection.com](http://www.autismcommunityconnection.com)

Autism Society of Illinois

2200 South Main Street Suite 317

Lombard, IL 60148

Phone: (630) 691-1270 and (630) 963-8809

[www.Autismillinois.org](http://www.Autismillinois.org)

Career Opportunities for Students with  
Disabilities

[www.cosdonline.org](http://www.cosdonline.org)

Chicago Association for Retarded Citizens

8 South Michigan Suite 1700

Chicago, IL 60603

Phone: (312) 346-6230

[www.carc.info](http://www.carc.info)

Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities

[www.c-c-d.org](http://www.c-c-d.org)

Council for Disability Rights

208 South LaSalle, Room 1330

Chicago, IL 60604

Phone: (312) 444-9484

[www.disabilityrights.org](http://www.disabilityrights.org)

Deicke Center for Visual Rehabilitation

Phone: 630-690-9037

[www.deicke.org](http://www.deicke.org)

Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund

[www.dredf.org](http://www.dredf.org)

Disability Works

[www.disabilityworks.org](http://www.disabilityworks.org)

Diversity World

[www.diversityworld.com](http://www.diversityworld.com)

Division of Rehabilitation Services- Client  
Assistance Program

Phone: 1-800-641-3929 (V & TTY)

[www.dhs.state.il.us/ors/capo](http://www.dhs.state.il.us/ors/capo)

DuPage Center for Independent Living

739 Roosevelt Rd, Bldg. 8, Suite 9

Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Phone: 630-469-2300 (V & TTY)

[www.dupagecil.org](http://www.dupagecil.org)

DuPage Family Disability Network

P.O. Box 3139

Lisle, IL 60532

[www.dfdn.org](http://www.dfdn.org)

Easter Seals DuPage and Fox Valley Region  
*Central Office*

Rosalie Dold Center

830 S. Addison Ave.

Villa Park, IL 60181

630.620.4433 Phone

630.320.4436 TTY

[www.easterseals.com](http://www.easterseals.com)

Epilepsy Greater Chicago  
17 N. State St. Suite 1300  
Chicago, IL 60602-3297  
Phone: 1-312-939-8622  
1-800-273-6027  
[www.epilepsyfoundation.org](http://www.epilepsyfoundation.org)

The Family Resource Center on Disabilities  
20 East Jackson Blvd. Room 900  
Chicago, IL 60637  
Phone: (312) 939-3513  
TDD: (312) 939-3519  
[www.frcd.org](http://www.frcd.org)

The Family Support Network of Illinois  
[www.familysupportnetwork.org](http://www.familysupportnetwork.org)

Innovative Rehabilitation Technology, Inc. (IRTI)  
Phone: (800) 322-4784  
[www.irti.net](http://www.irti.net)

Illinois Assistive Technology Project  
Phone: 1-800-852-5110 (V & TTY)  
[www.iltech.org](http://www.iltech.org)

Illinois Department of Employment Security  
837 S. Westmore-Meyers  
Lombard, IL 60148  
[www.ides.state.il.us](http://www.ides.state.il.us)  
Phone: 630-495-4345

IPADDunite-  
Illinois Parents of Adults with Developmental  
Disabilities  
<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/IPADDUnite/>

Illinois State Board of Education Help Line  
Phone: 1-866-262-6663  
Main # 1-217-782-4321

Illinois Parents of the Visually Impaired  
P.O Box 7477  
Springfield, IL 62791-7477  
1-708-787-9728

Illinois Spina Bifida Association  
3080 Ogden Ave. Suite 103  
Lisle, IL 60532  
Phone: 630-637-1050  
[www.illinoisspinabifidaassociation.com](http://www.illinoisspinabifidaassociation.com)

Job Accommodation Network  
Phone: (800) 526-7234 (V & TDD)  
[www.jan.wvu.edu](http://www.jan.wvu.edu)

Justice for All- Email network  
[www.jfanow.org](http://www.jfanow.org)

Mothers United for Moral Support  
Phone: 1-877-336-5333  
[www.netnet.net/mums/](http://www.netnet.net/mums/)

National Alliance for Mentally Ill  
[www.namidupage.org](http://www.namidupage.org)

National Alliance for Secondary Education and  
Transition  
[www.allianceforfullparticipation.org](http://www.allianceforfullparticipation.org)

National Center on Secondary Education and  
Transition  
[www.ncset.org](http://www.ncset.org)

National Organization on Disability  
Phone: 1-202-293-5960  
[www.nod.org](http://www.nod.org)

National Rehabilitation Information Center  
Phone: 1-800-346-2742 (V & TTY)  
[www.naric.com](http://www.naric.com)

Parent Association for CP (Cerebral Palsy)  
Children  
16312 S. 66<sup>th</sup> Ct.  
Tinley Park, IL 60477  
1-708-532-1916

RSA Region V CRP-RCEP @ U of I  
[www.ed.uiuc.edu/illinoisrcep/](http://www.ed.uiuc.edu/illinoisrcep/)

TASH  
[www.tash.org](http://www.tash.org)

## DuPage County Transition Planning Committee

### **What it can do for you!**

The DuPage County Planning Committee (TPC) meets the second Wednesday of every month except June, July, and August at 1:00 pm. at the workNet DuPage Career Center, 2525 Cabot Drive, Suite 302, in Lisle. We always welcome new members.

Attending TPC meetings can provide you with:

- Information on services for individuals with disabilities of all ages.
- Opportunities to have input into services provided to students and adults with disabilities.
- Networking opportunities toward accessing resources.

Transition planning is not just a very important step in the educational process, it is a life long process. Our membership includes parents, educators, vocational coordinators, adult service providers, and representatives from the business community.

For more information or to be included on the email list, contact either of the Co-Chairpersons of the TPC, Connie Jenner by phone at 630-942-6649 or email at [connie\\_jenner@glenbard.org](mailto:connie_jenner@glenbard.org) or Sara Tatham by phone at 630-230-9234 ext. 223 or email at [statham@sased.org](mailto:statham@sased.org).

Directions to the meeting location:

The workNet DuPage Career Center  
2525 Cabot Dr., Suite 302  
Lisle, IL 60532  
Telephone: 630-955-2030