



STUDENT  
COMMUNITY  
REFERRAL  
GUIDE

## ILCs (Independent Living Centers)

**ILCs** – These advocacy centers are available to anyone with a disability. There is no fee to utilize their services. The offerings may vary from site-to-site but most centers provide the following services:

- Benefits Counseling
  - o Medicaid
  - o SSI
  - o SSDI
- Peer Counseling
- Housing Information
- Disability Awareness (Self-Advocacy)
- Transition
- Budgeting

### LOCATIONS

#### **Bronx**

Bronx Independent Living Services, Inc  
4419 Third Ave.  
Bronx, NY 10457  
(718) 515-2800/ (718) 515-2803 (TTY)  
[www.bils.org](http://www.bils.org)

#### **Harlem**

Harlem Independent Living Center  
289 St. Nicholas Ave., Suite 21, Lower Level  
New York, NY 10027  
(212) 7122/ (212) 222-7198 (TTY)  
[www.hilc.org](http://www.hilc.org)

#### **Poughkeepsie**

Taconic Resources for Independence  
82 Washington Street, Suite 214  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
(914) 452-3913/ (914) 485-8110 (TTY)  
(845) 485-8110 (VP)  
[www.taconicresources.net](http://www.taconicresources.net)

#### **Queens**

Center for Independence of the Disabled  
Queens Satellite Office  
137-02 Northern Blvd.  
Flushing, NY 11354  
(646) 4 42-1520/ (718-86-0427)  
[www.cidny.org](http://www.cidny.org)

#### **Brooklyn**

Brooklyn Center for Independence of the Disabled  
27 Smith Street, Suite 200  
Brooklyn, NY 11201  
(718) 998-3000/ (718) 998-7406 (TTY)  
[www.bcid.org](http://www.bcid.org)

#### **Manhattan**

Center for the Independence of the Disabled NY (CIDNY)  
841 Broadway, Suite 301  
New York, NY 10003  
(212) 674-2300/ (212) 674-5619  
[www.cidny.org](http://www.cidny.org)

#### **Putnam**

Putnam Independent Living Services (Satellite)  
1961 Route 6  
Carmel, NY 10512  
(914) 228-7457/ (No TTY)  
[www.putnamils.org](http://www.putnamils.org)

#### **Rockland**

Rockland Independent Living Center  
873 Route 45, Suite 108  
New City, NY 10956  
(845) 624-3166/ (914) 624-0847 (TTY)  
[www.rilc.org](http://www.rilc.org)

**Staten Island**

Staten Island Center for Independent Living  
470 Castleton Ave.

Staten Island, NY 10301

(718) 720-9016/ (718) 720-9870 (TTY)

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

**Westchester (White Plains office)**

Westchester Independent Living Center  
200 Hamilton Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

White Plains, NY 10601

(914) 682-3926/ (914) 682-0926 (TTY)

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

**Westchester (Yonkers Office)**

Westchester Disabled on the Move

984 N. Broadway, Suite L-1

Yonkers, NY 10701

(914) 968-4717/ (914) 968-4717 (TTY)

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

## **VESID** (Vocational and Education Services for Individuals with Disabilities)

### **Who is eligible?**

- Resident of New York
- US citizen or have a work permit issued from INS
- There must be substantial impediment (mental or physical) to the individual's employment

### **NY's criteria for determining eligibility**

- The impairment must be permanent or progressive with accompanying functional limitations. One of the following two conditions must be documented.
  - **PERMANENT CONDITIONS:** physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic disfigurement or anatomical loss; or any mental or psychological disorder such as mental retardation, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities.
  - **PROGRESSIVE CONDITIONS:** The individual has a progressive condition that does not presently limit functioning, but there is a strong likelihood that functional limitations will exist during the person's vocational rehabilitation program. These limitations will relate to functioning in employment.

## **VESID OFFICES**

**Bronx** 1215 Zerega Ave., Bronx, NY 10462 \* (718) 931-3500

**Brooklyn** 55 Hanson Place, Brooklyn, NY 11217 \* (718) 722-7600

**Manhattan** 116 West 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY \* (212) 630-2300

- **Harlem Satellite Office** Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. State Office Building, 163 West 125<sup>th</sup> Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 713, New York, NY \* (212) 961-5520
- **Staten Island Satellite Office** 2071 Clove Road, Suite 302, Staten Island, NY 10304 \* (718) 816-4800

**Mid Hudson** Manchester Mill Centre, 301 Manchester Rd. Suite 22, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 \* 845-452-5325

- **Kingston Satellite Office** 65 Albany Ave., Suite E, Kingston, NY 12401 \* (845) 339-4270
- **Middletown Satellite Office** 200 Midway Park Drive, Middletown, NY 10940 \* (845) 346-4260

**Queens** 1 Lefrak City Plaza, 59-17 Junction Blvd., 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, Corona, NY 11368 \* (347) 510-3100

**White Plains** 75 South Broadway, White Plains, NY 10601 \* (914) 946-1313

- **Rockland Satellite Office** Pasack Plaza, 15 Perlman Drive, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Spring Valley, NY 10977 \* (845) 426-5427

# DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

OPWDD (Office of People with Developmental Disabilities) formerly known as OMRDD (Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities).

OPWDD provides access to services for people with developmental disabilities through a regional system dividing the State into sections which are overseen by DDSOs (Developmental Disabilities Service Offices).

## Eligibility Determination

*OPWDD uses Section 1.03(22) of the New York State Mental Hygiene Law as the legal basis for developmental disability:*

### The Developmental Disability is Attributable to (at least one of the following):

- Mental Retardation (FSIQ is 59 or below)
- Cerebral Palsy
- Epilepsy
- Neurological Impairment
- Familial Dysautonomia
- Autism
- Any other condition of a person to be found to be closely related to mental retardation because such condition results in similar impairment of general intellectual functioning or adaptive behavior to that of mentally retarded persons or requires treatment and services similar to those required for such person
- Dyslexia resulting from a disabling condition listed above

### The following Three Criteria Must All Be Met:

- Originates before the person is 22 years old
- Has continued or is expected to continue indefinitely
- Constitutes a substantial handicap to such a person's ability to function normally in society

### Substantial Handicap to Function Normally in Society Exists When the Person is Prohibited From:

- Engaging in substantial aspects of self-care or self-direction independently
- The developments of self-care or self-direction are *significantly below* age level

## **DDSO (Developmental Disability Services Office) Contacts**

### **BRONX & MANHATTAN**

Metro New York Developmental Disability Services Office  
75 Morton Street  
New York, NY 10014  
(212) 229-3000

### **BROOKLYN**

Brooklyn Developmental Disability Services Office  
888 Fountain Ave.  
Brooklyn, NY 11208  
(718) 642-6000

### **COLUMBIA, DUTCHESS, GREENE, PUTNAM & ULSTER**

Taconic Developmental Disability Services Office  
26 Center Circle  
Wassaic, NY 12592  
(845) 877-6821

### **ORANGE, ROCKLAND, SULLIVAN & WESTCHESTER**

Hudson Valley DDSO  
9 Wilbur Road  
PO Box 470  
Theils, NY 10984  
845-947-6000

### **QUEENS**

Bernard M. Fineson Developmental Disability Services Office  
80-45 Winchester Blvd.  
Administration Building 80-00  
Queens Village, NY 11427  
(718) 217-4242

### **STATEN ISLAND**

Institute of Basic Research in Developmental Disabilities  
1050 Forest Hill Road  
Staten Island, NY 10314

## SSI (Supplemental Security Income), MEDICAID & SSDI (Social Security Disability Insurance)

**SSI** – Monthly payments to people with low income and limited resources. (If the student works and earns over \$1,000 per month, the allotment will be reduced.)

### ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

- Must have a physical or mental (or both) condition that results in “marked and severe limitations.” This means that the conditions very seriously limit the child’s activities.
- The child’s condition must have lasted, or expect to last at least 12 months, or be expected to result in death.
- Parent will be asked for information about how the medical condition affect’s the child’s ability to function on a daily basis.
- Parent will be asked to give permission for doctors, therapists, teachers and other professionals to submit records.
- Once information is received, it may take up to 5 months for the State to make a determination.
- For some conditions, payment mat be made immediately:
  - HIV Infection
  - Total Blindness
  - Total Deafness
  - Cerebral Palsy
  - Down Syndrome
  - Muscular Dystrophy
  - Severe mental Retardation (child 7 years or older)
  - Birth Weight Below 2 lbs, 10 oz.

### PAYMENTS VARY

- For a child living with his family the amount is typically -\$472.43 per month
- A person living alone may receive \$761 per month
- A child in a medical facility (costs are covered by insurance) may receive \$55 per month

### SSI DISABILITY REVIEWS

- At least every 3 years for children under 18
- By age 1 for babies with low birth weight

### AT AGE 18

- Child must reapply
- Adult/Family resources are not considered

**MEDICAID** – Individuals who receive SSI are eligible for Medicaid. To apply:

- Access application forms online: NY Health Access. Click on Medicaid forms.
- Or, the student can apply in person at a Medicaid office. Locations can be found by accessing the website listed above, NY Health Access.

**SSDI (Benefits for Adults Disabled Since Childhood)** – Monthly payments most commonly issued to adults who have worked for a number of years. The SSDI program also pays benefits to adults who:

- Have a disability (onset before age 22)
- His/her parent receives **Social Security Retirement** benefits or **Disability** benefits
- **OR** his/her parent died and worked long enough under Social Security

**CONTACT** - For information Social Security Administration locations go to their website and type in a zip code: [www.socialsecurity.gov/locator](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/locator) or call: 800-772-1213.