



Family Support Options

Working in partnership with families

TRANSITION TO ADULT SERVICES RESOURCE SHEET

Transition Planning

Transition planning is preparing for one of the most significant times in your child's life—becoming an adult! Special Services At Home (SSAH) is a program for children only, ending at the age of 18 years. The year that your child turns 18, the Ministry will prorate SSAH funding and you must submit all invoices and receipts by the end of the month your child turns 18 on.

Developmental Services Ontario (DSO)

Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) is the access point for adult developmental services funded by the Ministry of Children Community and Social Services (MCCSS). There are nine DSO agencies located across the province, serving different counties and regions.

If you have a developmental disability, live in Ontario, and are 18 years old, you must apply through DSO to see if you are eligible to receive adult ministry-funded supports available in your community.

When you connect with the DSO for your area they will help you:

- Understand and complete the application process.
- Determine the kind of services and supports you need.
- Register you for Ministry funded services and supports that meet your needs when a spot is available.
- Provide information on other supports that might be available in your community.

Talk to your local DSO agency to find out what services and supports are available and are right for you.

You can contact DSO when your child is as young as 16 to have their eligibility confirmed so that your child can register for supports as soon as they turn 18. We encourage you to connect with the DSO as soon as possible after your child's 16th birthday. For more information about the application process for adult developmental services, contact DSO at 519-821-5716 or 1-888-941-1121, or visit their website at **www.dsontario.ca**

Ontario Disability Support Plan (ODSP)

The Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) is one of Ontario's social assistance programs. ODSP provides income and employment supports to eligible Ontario residents who have disabilities.



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You might be eligible for ODSP if you:

- Have a disability, or are a member of a prescribed class that is exempt from the disability adjudication process.
- Are in financial need, meaning you and your family do not have enough money to cover your living expenses.
- Are 18 years or older (if you're under 18, you can start the application process up to six months before your 18th birthday).

To be eligible for ODSP, you must first qualify financially and then your disability must be assessed.

If you qualify financially, you will be given a package of forms to complete with your doctor or health care provider to share with the ODSP office about your disability. The ODSP office will use this information to decide if you are eligible for ODSP.

To learn more about the Ontario Disability Support Plan (ODSP), and whether or not your child qualifies, you can visit **www.mcass.gov.on.ca**

In Guelph & Wellington County, the ODSP office is located at:

Ministry of Children Community and Social Services

Ontario Disability Support Program

Income and Employment Supports

1 Stone Road West, 1st Floor

Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y2

Tel: (519) 822-7500

Toll Free: 1-800-567-2953

TDD/TTY: (519) 822-1561

Fax: (519) 837-0789

Email: ODSP.Guelph@ontario.ca

Does your child have a physical disability?

Services for individuals who meet the SSAH criteria with physical needs and no developmental disability diagnosis vary greatly. Reviewing supports available in your home community, as well as those in the community in which your child may attend college or university, will be necessary. Independent living supports, support from the Local Health Integration Network (LHIN), supported housing, adaptive housing, and adaptive transportation are some of the services that may be available. Youth with a diagnosis of a physical disability may also apply for Ontario Disability Support Plan (ODSP) 6 months before their 18th birthday.