



FAMILY SUPPORTS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AGES 3-21



South Dakota

Dakota At Home - Central Hub for Service Start

You can contact us in one of these ways:

By phone: Call Dakota at Home at 833-663-9673, Option 2

By email: (Can Take a Picture) & email: DDDIntakeProcess@state.sd.us



Dakota At Home - Central Hub for Service Start

By mail:

Division of Developmental Disabilities

Hillsview Plaza, 3800 E Hwy 34

c/o 500 East Capitol Avenue

Pierre, SD 57501

Family Support 360 Waiver

There are four steps to check your eligibility.

Step 1: Fill Out Application Packet

- Complete the forms in the Application Packet.
- Send us a signed Psychological Evaluation.
- Send in legal guardianship paperwork, if it applies.
- Please return your completed application and requested documents back to the Division within 30 calendar days.

Step 2: DDD Checks Diagnosis

- After you send in your Application Packet, you will be assigned an Eligibility Specialist. They will read your forms and see if your diagnosis qualifies. You might need to send more information, like a signed doctor's report.

Step 3: DDD Checks Disability

- The Eligibility Specialist will set up a video meeting to check if your disability qualifies by completing an assessment.

For Family Support 360 (FS360) services there is a wait time before you can proceed to Step 4.

Step 4: Apply for Medicaid (Disabled Childrens Program) - Mentioned on Page 2*

- The Eligibility Specialist will give you a Medicaid application to fill out. Even if you already have Medicaid, you still need to fill out a short form.
- Note: Kids under 18 who do not get Social Security may have extra steps.

Strengthening Families

The Strengthening Families Program supports families and individuals with developmental disabilities by offering limited, flexible funds—regardless of income—to purchase services or supports not otherwise available.

- Incontinence Supplies (age 3+) – If on Medicaid, contact SD Dept. of Social Services (605-773-3495). If not, a physician's order confirming incontinence is required.
- Medication Copays – Must be doctor-prescribed; verification required.
- Nutritional Supplements – Doctor-prescribed (e.g., Boost, Pediasure).
- Recreational Opportunities – Community-inclusive activities such as music therapy, adaptive aquatics, gym memberships, or equine therapy.
- Adaptive Equipment/Clothing – Includes adaptive bikes, weighted blankets, sensory swings, noise-canceling headphones, communication devices, bath lifts/chairs, adaptive beds, utensils, and wheelchair parts/repairs. Not allowed: therapies, exercise equipment, home electronics, toys, basic household or educational items.
- Housing Modifications – Bathroom modifications, door alarms, ramps, grab bars.
- Medical Travel Expenses – Mileage and lodging for out-of-town specialized care not covered by Medicaid.
- Vehicle Modifications – Covers modifications only, not the vehicle.
- Family Counseling – Copays for sessions.
- Parent/Sibling Education – i.e. Autism or Down Syndrome conferences (apply to DD Council first).

Please remember to contact the Strengthening Families Program Manager at 800-265-9684 or 605-773-3438 to discuss any services or supports your child may need.

Respite Support

Respite is short-term care that gives families of children with disabilities a temporary break while ensuring their child is safely supported.

How to Apply

Complete these steps to apply:

- Fill out the [Respite Care Application](#).
- Provide proof of the diagnosis.
- Send the application and proof of diagnosis to:
- Respite Care Program

For help with the application, call [800-265-9684](tel:800-265-9684).

Proof of Diagnosis

For children or adults with a developmental disability, developmental delay, or chronic medical condition, proof can be a copy of any document with the diagnosis and name of the physician or psychologist who made the diagnosis. DHS does not need a complete copy of these reports, just the part with the diagnosis.

For a child with a serious emotional disturbance or an adult with a severe and persistent mental illness, a behavioral health professional must complete and send a summary evaluation form with the application. You can get the form from the Department of Human Services.

- By email: InfoDHS@state.sd.us
- By mail: Department of Human Services
Hillsview Plaza, 3800 E. Hwy. 34
c/o 500 E. Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501



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Medicaid Disabled Children's Program

Instead of Applying for the Standard Medicaid Program, families with Children with Disabilities should instead apply for the Disabled Children's Program through the below application:

<https://dss.sd.gov/formsandpubs/docs/MEDELGBLTY/EA24.9.pdf>

The ability to get access to the Disabled Children's Program is dependent on your waiting list for Family Support 360 and how close you are to the top of the list. Once you access Family Support 360, you will complete this application as a part of the finalization process to be accepted and supported with Medicaid that is not dependent on parent's financial income.

For additional information about the Long Term Care Programming for Children with Disabilities access to Medicaid, please call Julie Nelson at 605-394-2525.

How To Access Necessary Documentation

Psychological Evaluation: You can request this (in writing) from your child's Special Education Teacher, Principal, or Front Office Secretary Staff (in public school) or talk to your Child's doctor for Neuropsych testing options if your child does not currently have a Psychological Evaluation

Guardianship Paperwork: (only if this is applicable to you)

Complete Application Packet: (provided to you via the case worker - if you need this printed or to pick up a copy, Call the Dakota at Home Hotline: 1-833-663-9673, choose Option 2

If a Doctors note/Proof of the Diagnosis is required, Call your child's primary care physician, and ask for a letter stating all of the child's diagnoses for Family Support Eligibility purposes. You can pick this letter up from their office, or they can sometimes send it via MyChart.

Video Meeting: Be sure to check your email / phone calls regularly to schedule a video meeting with the Eligibility Specialist. This will help to ensure the process goes smoothly and gets you into the wait list for services.

Set a reminder to call back every 6 months to check on your status and confirm you are on the Waitlist for Family Support.

Social Security Disability

For More Information about Social Security Administration Disability Payments and/or Insurance please review the following Disabled Children's Manual

<https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10026.pdf>

Sioux Falls Local Social Security Administration Office:

5021 S Nevada Ave, Sioux Falls, SD 57108
(877) 274-5421

[Click Here for More Information](#)

What Do I Do First?

Apply for Strengthening Families, Respite and Family Support 360 Medicaid Waiver Programs through Dakota At Home - **You will have to be specific that you want EACH of these programs** (Family Support 360 has a 2-3 (ish) year wait list currently) access & timeline may vary by location.

Then, begin checking into Social Security Disability & Medicaid Disabled Children's Program.

Your School and Physician should have all of the medically necessary supports to provide the documentation you will need.

We encourage families to contact us if you get stuck along the way and we can help to try to navigate these complex systems with you!

Email our Team @ Info@Uniquely-Yours.care