



## Determination of Eligibility

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) has recently amended its eligibility regulations to reflect the realignment of children's services with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and to align services with Medicaid eligibility.

### Some of the changes include:

- At age 21, all adult individuals who are deemed functionally eligible for DDD services and are Medicaid eligible will be able to access direct services provided by DDD.
  - When a child reaches the age of 16, DDD will begin providing transitional planning assistance and at the age of 18, an individual can go through the intake process at DDD to be determined functionally eligible for adult DDD services. All direct services (residential, in-home, behavioral, family support, etc.) will continue to be provided by DCF until age 21.
  - All children younger than 16, who have previously been determined eligible by DDD, as well as all children who are new to the system will have to go through the eligibility process at DDD sometime between the ages of 18-21 in order to be eligible to receive services from DDD when they turn 21.
- In order to receive Division services, individuals are responsible to apply, become eligible for, and maintain Medicaid eligibility.
- Individuals must establish that New Jersey is his or her primary residence at the time of application. When an individual is receiving services out-of-State the individual must be willing to return to New Jersey within six months.
- The Division may, in its discretion reevaluate an individual's eligibility at any time. Individuals who lose eligibility may reapply at any time if they obtain a new evaluation that supports that the eligibility criteria are met.

To read more about the **Determination of Eligibility**, please visit our website at: <http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddd/news/publications/divisioncirculares.html>