

Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council

Helping people with developmental disabilities build better lives

Who can apply?

Anyone who meets the criteria the Council is looking for and the federal definition of a developmental disability.

The Council is looking for individuals who are:

1. People with developmental disabilities;
2. Parents, family members or guardians; and
3. Representatives of local governments or non-profit agencies.

The Council encourages individuals who are leaders or are willing to assume leadership roles; and individuals from throughout the state and people from diverse ethnic communities to apply.

What is the federal definition of a developmental disability?

The federal law describes someone with a disability that is;

- a. Attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments;
- b. Manifested before the individual attains age 22;
- c. Likely to continue indefinitely;
- d. Results in substantial functional limitations in three (3) or more of the following areas of major life activity:
 - self-care;
 - receptive and expressive language;
 - learning;
 - mobility;
 - self-direction;
 - capacity for independent living;
 - economic self-sufficiency; and
- e. Reflects the need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, individualized supports, or other forms of assistance that are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated.

Application Process

When can I apply?

Applications are accepted year round with interviews and recommendations to the Governor are made in the spring.

How do I apply?

You can go to the Council's website or call and ask for an application to be mailed to you. From the website the application can be filled out and emailed or you can print the application and mail it in.

Please send in a current resume along with your application.

What happens after I apply?

Your application is held for one year.

Interviews are conducted in the spring. The number and type of positions open vary from year to year so please don't be discouraged if you are not chosen for an interview.

At the end of the year if you have not been selected for an interview you will be called to see if you would like to submit another application for the next interview cycle.

What if I have questions?

You can call or email Linda West, Membership Coordinator at the Council Office at 1-800-634-4473 or linda.west@commerce.wa.gov.