

Supporting your student needing adult services

Contact your Local County Development Disability Organization (CDDO)

Big Lakes Developmental Center, 1416 Hayes Drive, Manhattan, KS 66547

Contact: Teresa Still 785-776-2642 cddo.tstill@biglakes.org

This CDDO serves as the single point of application, intakes and referral for home and community-based services (HCBS) for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Need to Know:

There is approximately an **8-10 year waiting list** to receive funding in order to access services. Begin this process as soon as possible to increase the chances of your student accessing these services at the time they need them.

The Process:

1. Complete the application
2. Complete a medical examination
3. Complete a psychological evaluation
 - Your family doctor or local CDDO may be able to help refer you to a psychologist.
 - Medicaid will cover the cost if the provider accepts Medicaid.
 - Some private insurance companies may cover the cost.
 - Vocational Rehabilitation Services/Department of Children and Family Services (DCF) may be able to help with the cost of the psychological evaluation.
4. After eligibility is determined, a functional assessment will be conducted by the CDDO annually.
5. After eligibility is determined, your child's name will be placed on the waiting list for HCBS funding.
 - You can access case management services without being eligible for HCBS funding. A targeted case manager (TCM) will be able to assist you in accessing services and gathering information about contracting providers.
6. If you are in need of services prior to your child's name coming up on the waiting list, there are other programs and options that may help meet the need. Specific qualifications and requirements will need to be met for each program and crisis funding.
 - Incidental Client Supports- funding that may be available to assist families with emergent needs, assistive technology, dental services or other services not covered by Medicaid or private insurance.
 - Family Support- funding made available to assist individuals with IDD living in the family home to defray costs related to the disability (in home or personal care, diapers or adult briefs, respite care, specialized daycare, dietary supplements)
 - One-Time Funds- funds used to assist families with services and items not covered by Medicaid or private insurance. This funding is dependent on available funding from the state.
 - Crisis Funding- funding made available to assist individuals with IDD when they are in danger of being harmed or harming themselves or others.

Apply for Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services

Department of Family and Children's Services
500 SW Van Buren, Topeka, KS 66603
Sheryl Crawford 785-296-1363 sheryl.crawford@ks.gov
Deborah Jewell Deborah.jewell@ks.gov

Program Services:

- Employment counseling and guidance
- Physical and mental restoration services
- Job Training
- Other Services
- Supported Employment
- Job Placement Services
- Services for high school students

Need to Know:

- With consent, your child's IEP case manager or transition coordinator can refer your child to VR and invite the VR counselor to the IEP meeting after the age of 16
- VR may be able to access funding to help meet continuing educational, training, accessibility, or cover the cost(s) of other needs necessary to access community services if related to employment.

Apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Social Security Administration- 1121 Hudson Ave. Manhattan, KS 66503 1-877-840-5741
Apply on-line or call to schedule an appointment between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.
1-800-772-1213

SSI is a cash supplement your child may be eligible to receive which can help to support him or her financially.

Need to know:

- Some students may qualify for SSI before turning 18 and some may not qualify until after turning 18.
- Household income is a consideration for minors but may not be for those individuals over the age of 18.
- Approximately 70% of applicants are denied SSI, do not be surprised if your child is denied assistance. If this happens, appeal the process within the given time frame rather than reapplying.
- It may be beneficial to schedule an in-person appointment and take your child with you when going for an appointment.
- This can be a very lengthy process and persistence to receive services may be needed. If you need legal assistance in the matter, you may choose to contact an attorney or obtain assistance through Kansas Legal Services 1-800-723-6953.

_____ **Apply for Medicaid (Kancare)**

Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) 1-800-792-4884

Medicaid provides health services and access to medical care to children and families in need and individuals with disabilities. In Kansas, the medical services program is referred to as Kancare and contracts with 3 private insurance companies which serve as managed care organizations (MCO).

Need to know:

- Kancare funds home and community-based services (HCBS) in Kansas. Many individuals with disabilities will access HCBS funding such as home supportive care, residential, or day services in order to live as independently as possible within their community.
- Private insurance typically does NOT pay for home and community-based services.
- It is possible to have a private insurance policy and receive Kancare to help cover the cost of needed services. Private insurance will be the primary insurance provider and Kancare will be the secondary insurance provider, Kancare will typically cover the cost of qualifying out-of-pocket expenses and co-pays that private insurance will not pay.
- Individuals applying for Kancare are required to apply for SSI. (Remember that these are separate government agencies and applications will need to be made separately at the respective agencies for Kancare and SSI).
- Individuals who already receive SSI, will be presumed eligible for Kancare, but will still need to go through the application process for Kancare.

_____ **Determine if Guardianship is Needed**

Guardianship is a legal mechanism that grants a designed adult legal power to make decisions for another person, one who is considered unable to make decisions himself or herself.

Need to know:

- Different types of guardianships are available based on the specific needs of the individual. An attorney will need to be obtained. Estimated cost is typically \$500-\$1000.
- Kansas Legal Services may be able to assist with obtaining guardianship at a reduced cost.
- Some CDDO providers work with private attorneys and may be able to access pro-bono assistance when obtaining guardianship.

Consider setting up a Special Needs Trust or ABLE Account

- Many well-intentioned caregivers don't realize that an inheritance may cause many problems for their dependent with special needs. Under current federal law, any inheritance of more than \$2,000 disqualifies individuals with disabilities for most federal needs-based assistance and benefits from public assistance programs may also be impacted or withdrawn.
- A special needs trust or an ABLE account offers a means of protecting your loved one's eligibility for benefits, while addressing the ongoing care and needs of your dependent.

Local resource for Independent Living

Three Rivers, 504 Miller Drive, Wamego, KS (785) 456-9915

- Three Rivers services are available to people with disabilities regardless of age, type or severity of disability or income.
- Three Rivers Independent Living Specialists on staff work with transition students and their families. Transition services are activities that prepare students with disabilities to move from school to post-school life.
- Three Rivers can help with parent resources including: IEP advocacy, assistance with applications for Medicaid, Disability Services (SSI,SSDI) and Employment and Job Preparation, Community Based Services and ABLE accounts.
- Three Rivers can provide student services including IEP advocating, assistance with applications for driving school, FAFSA, College Applications and Employment and Job Preparations and transition services including Pre-ETS and ABLE accounts.
- Three Rivers can help with locating and maintaining housing-researching and resources.
- Three Rivers can work on independent living skills such as organizational skills, money management/budgeting, setting up bank accounts and meeting monthly to make sure bills are paid.
- Three Rivers can assist with meal preparation including learning basic nutrition and preparing a meal.
- Three Rivers can help with tax preparation services.

Transition Services for high school students

Pre-Employment Transition Services

Sara Andres, Pre-ETS Transition Specialist. Sara.Andres@ks.gov

- Services for students with a documented disability between the ages of 16-21 served under an Individual Education Plan or a 504 Plan.
- The student must be a resident of Kansas and in a secondary, post-secondary or other recognized education program
- Services are designed to provide an early start at job exploration and to assist students with disabilities in making the transition from secondary to post-secondary education/training and competitive, integrated employment.
- Area of focus include job exploration counseling, self-advocacy, workplace readiness training, counseling on comprehensive transition or post-secondary education and work-based learning experiences.

Questions? Please contact Cristi Wieggers, Transition Coordinator

wieggersc@usd320.com

785-456-2214 ext. 5050