



## FACT SHEET: Who Is Eligible for New Directions?

An individual may be eligible for *New Directions* if they:

- Have been determined to be “DD eligible” by the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA);
- Are currently receiving services funded by DDA and want to convert to the *New Directions* Waiver; or,
- Have been identified by their Regional Office as a priority for funding as funding becomes available.

What does it mean to be found “DD eligible” by DDA?

If you have not applied for services from DDA in the past, you may request an application from the Regional Office that serves your county or download an application from the DDA website ([www.ddamaryland.org](http://www.ddamaryland.org)) and send it to the Regional Office that serves your area. To be determined as “DD eligible” you must have a disability:

- That is severe and chronic (such as mental retardation, cerebral palsy, Down’s syndrome);
- Manifested prior to the age of 22 years old;
- Is attributable to a physical or mental impairment other than a sole diagnosis of mental illness, or to a combination of mental and physical impairments;
- Is likely to continue indefinitely;
- Results in the inability to live independently without external support or continuing regular assistance; and
- Reflects the need for a combination and sequence of special interdisciplinary or generic care, treatment or other services that are individually planned and coordinated for the individual.

The Regional Office will determine if you meet these criteria. If so, your name will be placed on a waiting list with your request for service.

If you already receive DDA services and want to self-direct your services, notify your Resource Coordinator or your Regional office.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADMINISTRATION

NEW DIRECTIONS

*Maryland’s Independence Plus Waiver*  
*For Individuals with Developmental Disabilities*