

Connecting Students to Adult Services

Department of Human Services- Division of Developmental Disabilities

If an individual with a developmental disability is seeking adult services and supports through the DHS Division of Developmental Disabilities, the point of entry is with Independent Service Coordination (ISC) agencies.

In Chicago, **Community Services Options (CSO)** and **Community Alternatives Unlimited (CAU)** provide case management for individuals with developmental disabilities. CSO serves the south side of Chicago and CAU serves the north side of Chicago.

- CSO and CAU administer the Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS) survey to individuals who have a developmental disability.
- PUNS is a survey that determines what services (case management, advocacy, day program, and home based supports) individuals with developmental disabilities are eligible to receive from the Illinois Department of Human Services/Division of Developmental Disabilities.
- Currently there is a waiting list to receive services from the Division of Developmental Disabilities. Students must have a PUNS done in order to secure placement on the waiting list. The school counselor should provide families with contact information for the appropriate screening agency (CSO or CAU). The PUNS can be administered to children as young as three years old.
- CSO and CAU may require the student's most recent IEP and any pertinent information that can best describe the impact of the student's disability. Pertinent information may include the student's most recent psychological evaluation, social assessment, nurse report, or other related service report. Best practice is for the school counselor to support the student and his/her family in acquiring all documentation necessary to determine eligibility.
- After the initial PUNS screening is completed, the caseworker from CSO or CAU will meet with the student and his/her family annually. Student's can be terminated from the waiting list if they do not meet with the caseworker annually. The school counselor should remind families to update their contact information with the appropriate screening agency (CSO or CAU).
- The status of the student's relationship with CSO or CAU should be documented in the transition plan of the IEP, and may appear in various sections, such as the Coordinated Set of Activities, Linkages to Post-Graduation Supports and Services, or Home-based Support Services Program.

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FOR NORTH SIDE RESIDENTS

Community Alternatives Unlimited

DHS- Division of
Developmental Disabilities

8765 W Higgins Rd, 3rd Floor
Chicago, IL 60631

Phone: (773) 867-4000
TTY: (773) 867-4168

Website: <http://www.cau.org>

FOR SOUTH SIDE RESIDENTS

Community Service Options

DHS- Division of
Developmental Disabilities

6845 S Western Ave
Chicago, IL 60636

Phone: (888) 276-4467
TTY: (773) 884-1002
Fax: (773) 838-9362

Website: <http://www.cso1.org>

Questions? Call the DHS Helpline:
1-888-DD-PLANS or 1-866-376-8446 (TTY)
<http://www.dhs.state.il.us>

Family Manual
Transition to Employment and Adult Services for Youth with
Developmental Disabilities in Illinois

Download at:

[http://www.thearcofil.org/secure/reveal/admin/uploads/documents/
FamilyManualTransitionNov302010FINAL.pdf](http://www.thearcofil.org/secure/reveal/admin/uploads/documents/FamilyManualTransitionNov302010FINAL.pdf)

The Arc of Illinois Family Manual was developed to assist individuals with developmental disabilities in linking with post-secondary resources. School counselors and families can use this manual as an informational resource to facilitate a student's transition plan development.