CLEARBROOK

Enrich Lives. Embrace Potential.

For Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD: JOURNEY TO SUCCESS

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TRANSITION OUTREACH SPECIALIST

02/18/2026

clearbrook.org

ABOUT OUR SERVICES



Residential



Employment



Clinical



Community Day



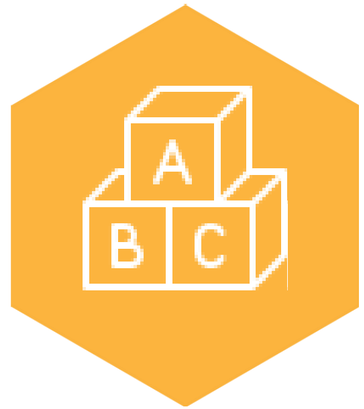
Home-Based



Respite



Children



Early Intervention

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CLEARBROOK TIMELINE

1955
Five Families in a Church's Basement

1960s
Vocational Services

1970s
Residential Services & CHILD Program

1980s
Expansion of Residential Services

1990s
Clearbrook Clinic, Respite, CILA, & CFC

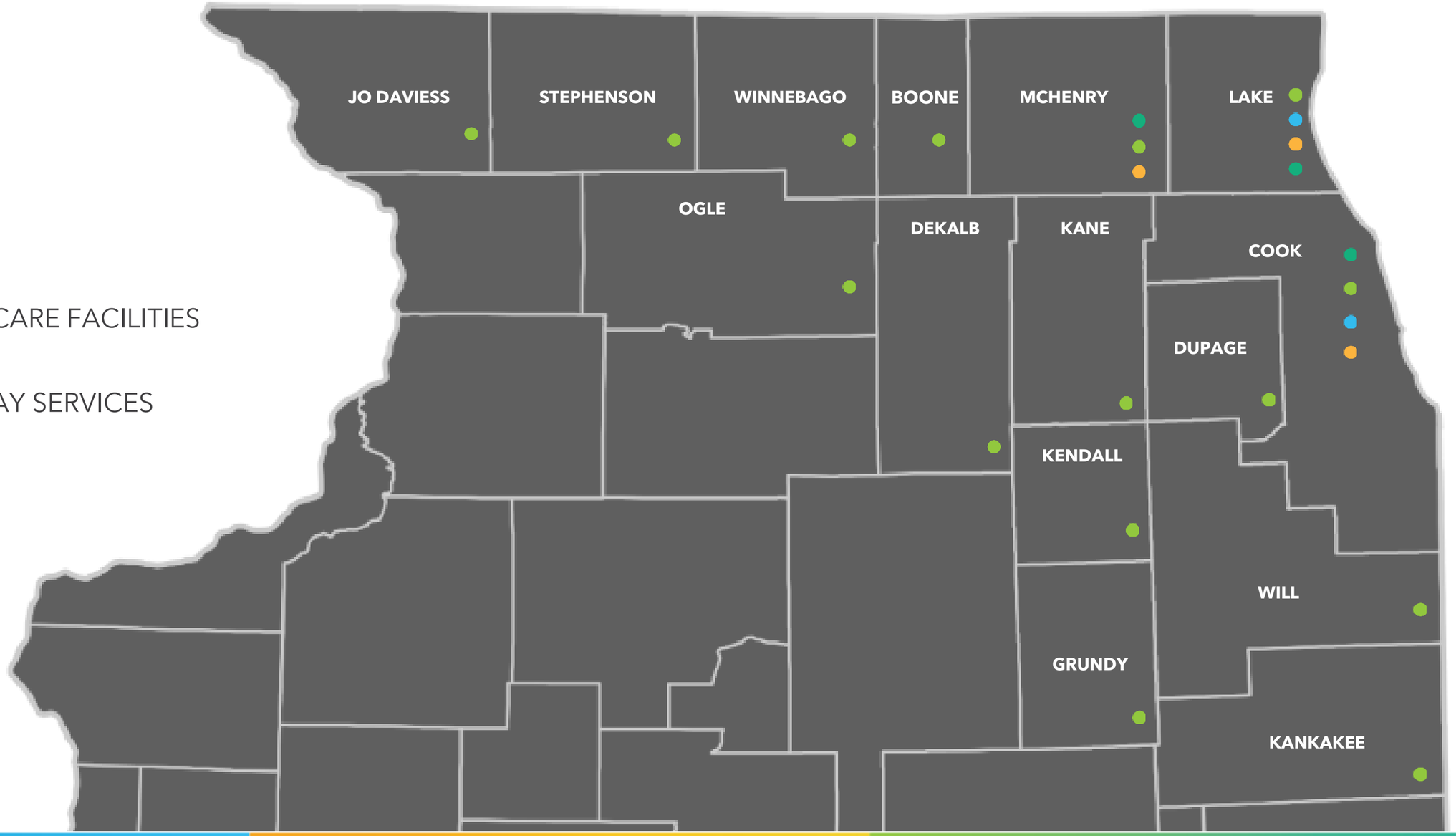
2000s
Plaza Opens, Home-Based Services Expand

TODAY

Largest Provider of Home-Based Services
Home to over 8,000

SERVICE LOCATIONS

- CILA
- HOME-BASED
- INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES
- COMMUNITY DAY SERVICES



CLEAR

Clearbrook is home to thousands of adults and children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Our goal is to empower them to embrace their potential and live their fullest lives possible.

8,000+ served

15 counties

80+ locations

160 communities

400+ residents

70 years

900+ staff

3 mental health centers

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TRANSITION OUTREACH SPECIALIST

PROVIDES SUPPORT, LINKAGE, AND RESOURCES

- **Information and Assistance**
  - Linkage to Independent Service Coord (ISC) agency for PUNS
  - Home and Community Based Waiver Programs
  - Residential Options (CILA, ICF/DD, Supportive Housing)
  - Adult Community Day Services
  - Department of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)

- **Legal/Financial Considerations**
  - Delegation of Rights, Supported Decision-Making, Guardianship

- **Applications for SSI and Adult Medicaid**

- **Outreach/Training Support**
  - Attend IEP Meetings
  - Parents
  - School Professionals
  - Self-Advocates

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HOME-BASED SERVICES

- This program provides active, treatment-based services to children and adult family members with intellectual/developmental disabilities

- Home-Based Responsibilities
  - Provides support in the comfort and familiarity of a home, educational setting, and/or community environment.
  - Provides services to promote skill development and community integration.
  - Coordinates with other programs in which family members may participate.
  - Serves more than 1,600 families in 16 Illinois counties

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COMMUNITY DAY SERVICES (CDS)

Weekday programs for adults with I/DD, allowing individuals to expand their interaction with their peers, community, and the world at large within structured settings

CDS Rolling Meadows and CDS Hoffman Estates

Participants follow daily routines centered around socializing, skill-building, and engaging with their local community.

CHOICE

The primary goal of the CHOICE program is full community integration for participants, empowering them to live their fullest lives possible. Whether through independent or supported employment, engaging in volunteer opportunities, or participating socially—the individuals are given the freedom to choose their activities day-to-day. There are three CHOICE locations.

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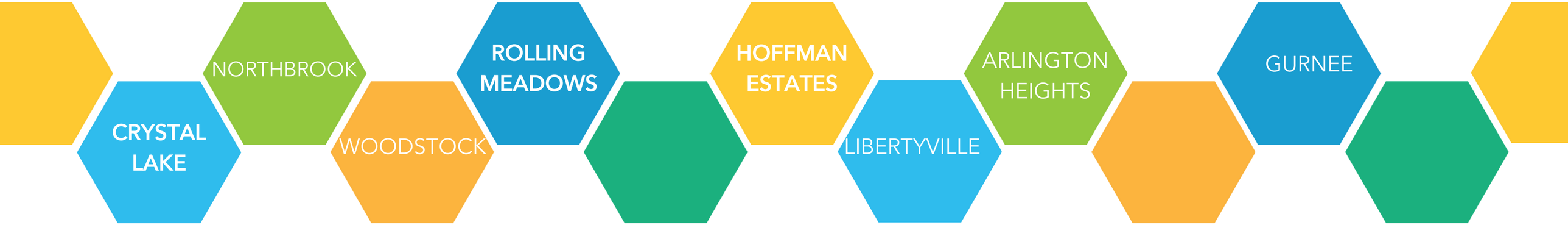
COMMUNITY DAY SERVICES (CDS)

1815 EMPLOYMENT DAY PROGRAM

THE 1815 EMPLOYMENT DAY PROGRAM EMPOWERS INDIVIDUALS TO MAKE INDEPENDENT CHOICES DURING THEIR NON-WORKING HOURS.

CDS PAL

An innovative partnership between families and service providers, CDS PAL (Partners in Adult Learning) presents an array of experiences to young adults with I/DD and significant physical challenges in the areas of continued learning and community involvement.



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SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

The Supportive Housing Coordinator assists individuals and their families with exploring affordable and supportive housing options.

- STATEWIDE REFERRAL NETWORK
- HUD RESOURCE LOCATOR
- CONTACTING LOCAL PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITIES
- PHONE CONSULTATIONS
- SKILLS ASSESSMENT
- ASSISTANCE WITH FINDING UTILITY RESOURCES

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

- Supportive Housing is affordable housing with the social, health, and support services needed and desired to live a community-integrated life.
- Affordable Housing means that tenants ideally pay no more than a percentage of their adjusted gross income.
- Resources:
  - Corporation for Supportive Housing - csh.org/supportive-housing-101/
  - Digital resource for renters and property providers - ilhousingsearch.org
  - Center for Independent Futures - independentfutures.com/blog/housing-solutions
  - The Collaborative Community Housing Initiative - https://thecchi.org/
  - Weston Bridges - https://www.westonbridges.com/

EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING SERVICES

A full spectrum of work services are offered that help people with intellectual/developmental disabilities learn skills, gain experience, and find meaningful employment that matches their interests and skills.



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SUPPORTED COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT

- Participants receive onsite training and support from a Job Coach who helps them focus on achieving success at their community-based job.
- Coaches assist individuals in a variety of ways, including orientation to the work environment/duties, integration into the employment site, appropriate work behavior, and more!

CURRENT COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT PARTNERS

- Culver's
- Olive Garden
- Walmart
- Mariano's
- McDonald's
- Home Depot
- Jewel
- Gap
- Cozzini
- FedEx
- Sedgebrook Senior Living
- Schaumburg Boomers
- RTC Industries
- Lowe's
- and more!

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COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER (CMHC)

Who does the CMHC serve?

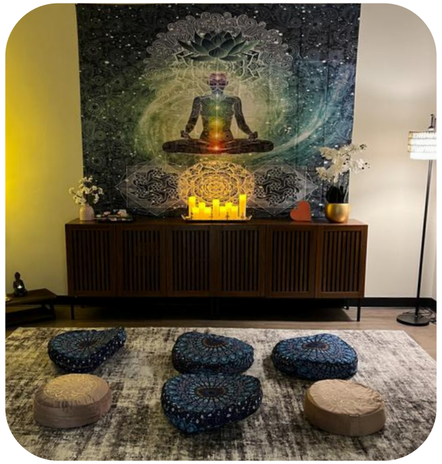
- Individuals who are dually diagnosed with an intellectual/developmental disability and mental illness
- Residents of the community that have a mental illness diagnosis - Individuals do not need to be a part of Clearbrook prior to service

Where are Clearbrook's CMHCs located?

- There are three CMHCs:
  - Rolling Meadows
  - Libertyville
  - Crystal Lake

Therapeutic Methods

- Art therapy
- Mindfulness and meditation
- Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT)
- Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT)





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COMMUNITY SUPPORT ROLLING MEADOWS

- Therapeutic day program at our CMHC's Rolling Meadows location
- Serves adults with a dual diagnosis of mental illness and I/DD
- Participants focus on community-integration, gaining independence, building connections, and developing coping skills
- Runs Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9am - 3pm
- Bills Medicaid
- Small group setting
- Led by a licensed clinician

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INTEROCEPTION

THE 8TH SENSE

- The perception of internal bodily signals (ex: hunger, thirst, racing heartbeat, etc.) that help you understand your body's internal state
- A foundational sense that influences a wide range of functions, including self-regulation, mental health, and the experience of emotion
- Integrating OT and Zones of Regulation

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COMMUNITY INTEGRATED LIVING ARRANGEMENTS (CILA)

- A CILA is a single-family home, apartment, or townhouse in the community shared by up to eight people.
- The goal is for residents to be as independent as possible in their group home and community. Onsite staff provide support as needed.
- A CILA may provide 24-hour staff coverage, overnight staff, or intermittent coverage (ICILA), depending on resident needs.
- **Includes funding for licensed Community Day Services/Employment Services**
- **CILA providers in IL** - dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=56783



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COMMUNITY INTEGRATED LIVING ARRANGEMENTS (CILA)

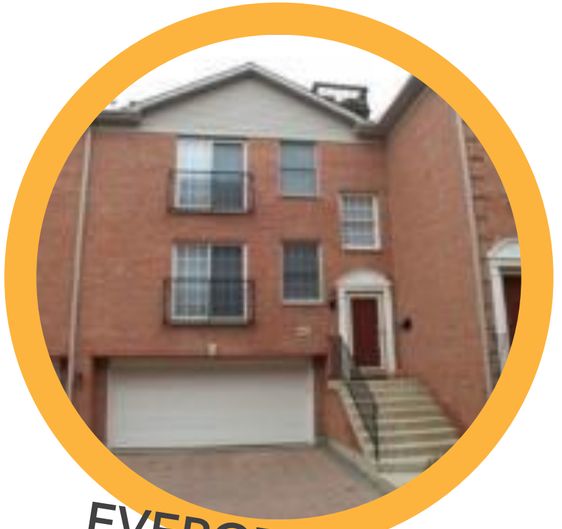
Clearbrook has 55+ locations throughout the North and Northwest Chicagoland suburbs. These residences can provide 24-hour awake support, 24-hour awake and sleep support, or intermittent support.

BROOKMEADE



BOSWORTH





EVERGREEN

ELAINE CIRCLE



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COMMUNITY INTEGRATED LIVING ARRANGEMENTS (CILA)



RESIDENTIAL OPTION (NON MEDICAL WAIVER)

INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITIES FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (ICF/DD)

- Funded by Department of Public Health
- Funding stays with the facility, not the person
- Nursing services available
- Larger congregate settings from 16 to 100+
- Do not need to be selected from PUNS for this residential option, but AHBS would be discontinued
- Also provides funding for Adult Community Day/Employment Services
- Listing of ICF/DD's in IL - dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=58023

INTERMEDIATE CARE FACILITY (ICF)

Clearbrook has four ICFs. Latoff Commons in Rolling Meadows is home to 85 residents, both male and female. Wilke (f) and Fairfax (m) in Rolling Meadows each house 16 individuals. Wright is home to 16 residents (m/f) in Gurnee. Learn more at clearbrook.org/residential.

LATOFF COMMONS



FAIRFAX





WILKE

WRIGHT



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DEPT OF REHABILITATION (DHS/DRS) EMPLOYMENT SERVICES/HOME SUPPORT PROGRAM

DRS VOCATIONAL SERVICES

- Job development
- Job placement
- Job coaching
- May also receive HBS simultaneously

DRS HOME SUPPORT PROGRAM

- Based on DON score (Determination of Need) to remain in home
- Can't receive HBS with DRS Home Support Program. Sometimes DRS provides more hours of service. However, DRS Home Support will not pay for Community Day Services.
- http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=29737

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NON LICENSED DHS PROGRAMS/SERVICES

DHS/DDD Medicaid Waiver Does Not Cover Non-Licensed Programs such as Social/Leisure programs (eg some Community Day Services and some Special Recreation Programs)

Check DHS website for Licensed Providers (dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=57221) or be sure to inquire if you wish to use HBS funds for day services.



WHEN YOUR CHILD TURNS 18

- Consider Guardianship or other alternatives: Does student have capacity to use good judgment, make decisions regarding health, finances, well-being?
- May be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- If receiving All Kids, coverage continues through age 18. May apply for Adult Medicaid at age 19.

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ABLE ACCOUNT

Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE)

- ablenrc.org
- Allows an individual with a disability (occurring before age 46) to save, invest, and spend money on **qualified disability expenses (QDE)**
- Person with the disability is owner of the account. Others may contribute to it. Management fees apply.
- SSI is not affected (up to $100,000); $19,000 maximum annual contribution
- https://illinoisable.com/

WHAT ARE QUALIFIED DISABILITY EXPENSES (QDE)?

Qualified expenses include, but are not limited to:

- Education
- Health and wellness
- Housing
- Transportation
- Legal fees
- Financial management
- Employment training and support
- Assistive technology
- Personal support services
- Oversight and monitoring
- Funeral and burial expenses

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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS

SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI)

- Children may be eligible, depending on household income
- Cash benefit for seniors 65 + or 18+ determined to have a disability and have less than $2,000 in assets
- Current SSI maximum is $994 (2026)
- Apply partially online, then in-person or via phone interview
- Must prove disability prevents substantial gainful activity (SGA) <$1,690/mo (2026)
- Approval may take 9-12 months
- Easier to be approved for adult Medicaid if already approved for SSI

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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE (SSDI)

- Payroll tax FICA (Federal Insurance Contribution Act) funded federal insurance program
- The longer you work, the more credits you earn toward social security disability or retirement benefits (2026: 1 work credit is $1,890; only 6 credits needed if there's a qualifying disability before age 24)
- An individual may receive SSDI as a beneficiary or Disabled Adult Child (DAC) on a parent's work record when he/she is retired, disabled, or deceased
- After 24 months of SSDI benefits, eligible for Medicare
- For Additional Information: SSA Red Book - ssa.gov/redbook/
- SSA Policies - secure.ssa.gov/apps10/poms.nsf/lnx/0501130740

ITEMS NEEDED TO APPLY FOR SSI

- Applicant's social security card (or SSA print out of the number)
- Applicant's birth certificate
- Information about where applicant lives (mortgage, lease, or renter)
- Pay stubs, bank statements, insurance policies, etc. of any assets
- Names/addresses/phone numbers of doctors/hospitals/clinics (including psychological/neurological/psychiatric reports and diagnoses)
- List of medications and dosages
- Proof of US citizenship or eligible non-citizen status
- Guardianship papers, if applicable
- **Savings/Checking account information in applicant's name, mandatory for social security direct deposit (may be established after SSI is approved)**

HOW TO APPLY FOR SSI

1. Go to **ssa.gov**. Select “Benefits”
2. Select “Supplemental Security Income (SSI)”
3. Select “Learn how to apply”
4. Select “An adult (age 18 and over).” Program choice is “Supplemental Security Income for Disability.” Benefit choice is “Disability.” Select “Learn how to apply.”
5. Select “Apply online” and then fill out the online application. After you submit the application, wait to receive a notification from Social Security about an in-person interview.

ADDITIONAL INFO

- SSA Red Book - ssa.gov/redbook
- SSA Policies - secure.ssa.gov/apps10/poms.nsf/lnx/0501130740
- To find your local office, go to ssa.gov and enter your zip code
- Contact the SSA at (700) 772-1213

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ADULT MEDICAID

- Required for Home Based Services (CHBS or AHBS)
- Children receive medicaid through *All Kids* until 19 yrs
- Easier to be approved for Medicaid if receiving Social Security (SSI or SSDI)
- Apply online, in person, or by mail
- Private insurance is usually primary. Medicare, if applicable, is usually secondary. Medicaid is the insurance of last resort.
- May take 30-90 days to be approved
- Important: Complete annual re-determinations to maintain Medicaid benefits

ITEMS NEEDED TO APPLY FOR MEDICAID

- Private Medical Insurance card, if applicable
- Guardianship documents, if applicable
- Social Security letter confirming benefits, if applicable
- Most recent checking/savings account statements
- Pay stubs from last 30 days
- State ID card
- Social Security card
- Birth Certificate

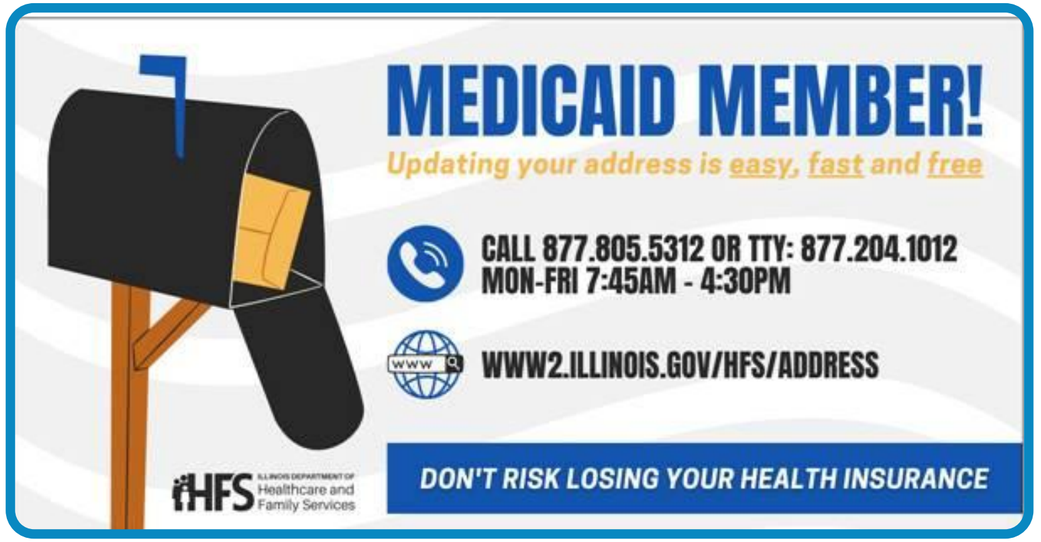
HOW TO APPLY FOR MEDICAID

OPTION 1

Go to dhs.state.il.us. Select “Medical” and then “Medical Resources.” Select “Cash, SNAP (Food Stamps) & Medical Assistance.” Apply online or print out the application.

OPTION 2

Visit abe.illinois.gov to apply for and manage your benefits.

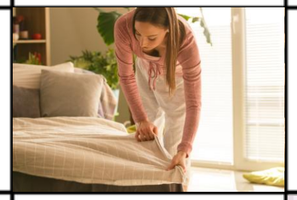
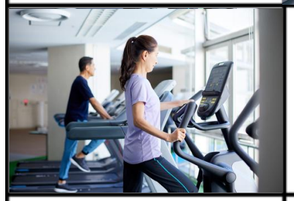


OPTION 3

Apply in person. Locate your local DHS office at dhs.state.il.us using the “Office Locator” tool. Select office type “Family Community Resource Center.”

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PICTURE "A DAY IN THE LIFE" AFTER AGE 22...

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
MORNING							
							
AFTERNOON							
							
EVENING							
							

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HOW TO HELP WITH TRANSITION

- Attend Transition/Resource Fairs at your school/community. Start early and attend multiple.
- Identify strengths/interests that translate into vocational opportunities. Address needs/barriers to accessing the community in IEP.
- Emphasize daily living skills and decision-making at home to improve skills, increase independence, and promote adult behavior and self-concept.
- Tour Adult Service Provider resources in your area (day and/or residential) as appropriate.
- Use family network and connections with prospective employers at places the individual might like to work/ volunteer.

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ADVOCACY

STAND UP. SPEAK OUT. MAKE A CHANGE.

STAY INFORMED:

- State budgetary constraints
- Allocation of resources
- Types of services available
- Regulatory considerations

ADVOCATE:

- Visit your representatives
- Sign up for legislative alert and take action.
- Visit **advocacy.clearbrook.org**

JOIN SUPPORT GROUPS:

- **The Arc of IL** - thearcofil.org
- **iPADDUnite.org** (transition age) - ipaddunite.org
- **Cityofsupport.org** (children) - cityofsupport.org
- North Suburban Parents of Kids with Special Needs Facebook Group (children)

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ADVOCACY FUELS POSITIVE CHANGE

Since 1865, large congregate settings dominated the country for over a century.

- 1972 Wyatt vs Stickney - judge ruled for “least restrictive environment”
- 1975 Public Education (PL 94-142 aka IDEA)
- 1985 CILA (Community Integrated Living Arrangements) open
- 1990 ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) passed
- 1991 Olmstead Act - moved individuals out of segregated settings
- 2006 HCBS (Home and Community Based Services)
- 2011 Ligas Lawsuit - ability to live in a community setting
- 2014 WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act)
- 2016 ABLE (A Better Life Experience) Act passed
- 2021 PA 102- 0172/0173 extends Special Ed services end of school year of 22nd bday

DDD UPDATE

- PUNS list has been updated to reflect the number of people Seeking vs Planning for services.
- FY18 reflected a little more than 19,000 on the PUNS list
- As of 9/30/24, there were 16, 306 individuals *Seeking Services* (6,271 Adults and 4,790 Children)
- Waiting time for adults to be selected from the *Seeking* category is less than 60 months from the 18th birthday.
- **Recent PUNS snapshot** - dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=141313

PUNS 18+ Seeking Services Time Waiting

Time waiting	total adults	percentage
60 or more months	16	0%
48 to 59.99 months	87	1%
36 to 47.99 months	1429	21%
24 to 35.99 months	1492	22%
12 to 23.99 months	1885	28%
0 to 11.99 months	1793	27%
Total	**6,702**	

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YOUR JOURNEY TO SUCCESS

ONE STEP AT A TIME

RESOURCES

BENEFITS

- Medicaid Application - hfs.illinois.gov/medicalclients/medicaidguide/applying.html
- Supplemental Security Income - www.ssa.gov
- SSA Red Book - ssa.gov/redbook/
- SSA Policies - secure.ssa.gov/apps10/poms.nsf/lnx/0501130740
- Employment/WIOA - leadcenter.org

RESOURCES

FINANCIAL

- ABLE ACCOUNTS - SAVEWITHABLE.COM
- IL ABLE https://illinoisable.com/
- Special Needs Trusts - rubinlaw.com/special-needs-trusts-and-how-to-fund-them/

HOUSING

- CORPORATION FOR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING - *CSH.ORG/SUPPORTIVE-HOUSING-101/*
- CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT FUTURES - INDEPENDENTFUTURES.COM/HOUSING-SOLUTIONS/

RESOURCES

LEGAL

- SPECIAL NEEDS ALLIANCE - SPECIALNEEDSALLIANCE.ORG
- SUPPORTED DECISION MAKING - SUPPORTEDDECISIONMAKING.ORG
- IL GUARDIANSHIP & ADVOCACY COMMISSION - GAC.ILLINOIS.GOV
- NATIONAL CENTER ON SECONDARY EDUCATION AND TRANSITION - NCSET.ORG

RESOURCES

RECREATION/LEISURE

- SPECIAL OLYMPICS - SOILL.ORG
- SPECIAL RECREATION - SPECIALRECREATION.ORG

TRANSITION PLANNING

- TRANSITION MODULE - EQUIPFOREQUALITY.ORG/RESOURCE/TRANSITION-PLANS/
- TRANSPORTATION
  - Pace Bus - pacebus.com
  - RTA Chicago - rtachicago.org

RESOURCES

- IL DHS/DDD - dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=29749
- The Arc Of US on Voting - thearc.org/vote/?utm_source=cc&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=vote
- The Arc Of US on Future Planning - futureplanning.thearc.org/planning-basics/
- The Arc of IL on Residential Options - illinoislifespan.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/ResidentialOptionsFinalAug2019.pdf

CONTACTS

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“It’s not what you look at that matters. It’s what you see.” - Henry David Thoreau



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THANK YOU

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