



TRANSITION SERVICES

EDUCATION. EMPLOYMENT. INDEPENDENCE.

2024-2025

Independent Living



COMMUNITY RESOURCE GUIDE



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A guide to applying for the NOW/Comp Medicaid Waiver. The NOW/Comp Waiver can be used to help pay for supports for individuals to live as independently as possible. The process can be lengthy so it is recommended to start the application process no later than when a student enters high school, but it can be started earlier.

SSI One Pager

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A guide to applying for SSI benefits. SSI benefits can be used to help individuals live as independently as possible.

Independent Living

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Organizations that provide independent living information and support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Resources found within the Cobb County School District Special Education Community Resource Guide are for informational purposes only. The resources contained here are not associated with, affiliated with or sponsored by the Cobb County School District. CCSD makes no recommendations about the validity or usefulness of any agencies listed herein.

The resources contained in the Community Resource Guide may change after publication. Please contact the resources for the most up to date information on services provided.

Transition Team Contacts



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NOW/COMP Medicaid Waiver

The New Options Waiver (NOW) and the Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP) offer home- and community-based services for individuals with intellectual disabilities or other closely related conditions, such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism or neurological problems.



Eligibility Criteria:

- Eligible for Medicaid.
- Have a diagnosis of an intellectual disability and/or a closely related condition.

Required Documentation to Apply:

- Application
- Psychological Report (Including IQ scores, adaptive scores, and/or Autism Spectrum Disorder assessments if applicable)
- Proof of Citizenship
- Copy of Social Security Card (or number)
- Copy of Medicaid and/or Medicare card
- Copy of Social Security benefit information
- Copy of guardianship documents (if applicable)
- Most recent IEP
- Signed Notice of Privacy Practices

NOW/COMP Waiver

Program Services:

- Adult Dental Services
- Adult Nursing Services
- Adult PT and/or OT
- Adult Speech Therapy
- Behavioral Supports
- Community Access Services
- Community Living Support Services
- Community Residential Alternative Services
- Financial Supports
- Pre-Vocational Services
- Respite Services
- Specialized Medical Supplies
- Support Coordination
- Transportation Services

Additional services may be provided



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NOW/COMP Medicaid Waiver



Websites

- DBHDD's Intellectual & Developmental Disability Services
- Parent to Parent of Georgia



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ME! >>



If you would like to connect with the Transition Resource Specialist that supports your school, please consult the Locations list on the Transition Services website:
<https://www.cobbk12.org/page/38587/special-education-transition-services>

More Information

- DBHDD NOW/Comp Waiver Fact Sheet
- Constructing a Good Life Through Understanding the NOW and Comp Waivers



Application

Online NOW/Comp Waiver Application

NOW/Comp Waiver Application

NOW/Comp Waiver Release of Information



Support

These agencies can provide help for families completing the NOW/Comp Waiver Application.

- Special Needs Cobb
- Parent to Parent of Georgia

It may be necessary to request records to be submitted with your application. Go to the Cobb County School District Special Education webpage and scroll to "Records and Transcripts" for instructions on accessing records.



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Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a benefits program that provides monthly payments to children and adults with disabilities and limited or no resources.

How Do I Apply?



Call 1-800-772-1213 for an appointment.



Visit Cobb County Social Security Administration Office



Apply at www.ssa.gov/apply/ssi

Eligibility Requirements

- The adult must have a physical or mental disability that:
 - Is severe and creates functional limitations.
 - Prevents gainful employment.
 - Has lasted for more than 12 months and is expected to continue.
- Adult income is limited to less than \$1500. .

Frequently Asked Questions

- **How long does the process take?**
 - Depending on the need for appeals, the process can take anywhere from three months to two years.
- **What kind of documentation do I need?**
 - If you make an appointment or apply online, you will receive a list of documents.
 - The list may include: social security card, birth certificate, bank statements, medical report or eligibility report, your child's IEP, and lists of people who work with your child.



AbleNet provides assistive technology and support and knowledge about using assistive technology. The mission of AbleNet is to shatter the model on how funded speech devices are delivered and make communication a basic human right.

1-800-322-0956
<https://www.ablenetinc.com/>

All In is an Atlanta-area program offering community-based independent living for adults with mild to moderate intellectual and developmental disabilities or acquired brain injuries. Participants live in their own apartments or homes throughout the metro Atlanta area.

770-945-8381
<https://liveallin.org/>

Annandale Village is dedicated solely to providing progressive life assistance to adults 18 years or older with developmental disabilities and acquired brain injuries to maximize their abilities and maintain their independence in the least restrictive environment. They provide assisted living, day program, community access, residential services, as well as skilled nursing.

3500 Annandale Lane
Suwanee, GA 30024-2150
770-945-8381
<http://annandale.org/>

Canine Companions for Independence is a non-profit organization that enhances the lives of people with disabilities by providing highly trained assistance dogs and ongoing support to ensure quality partnerships.

8150 Clarcona Ocoee Road
Orlando, FL 32818
407-522-3300
<https://canine.org/location/southeast/chapter/greater-atlanta-chapter/>

Champions Place is an independent living community that accommodates young adults with a variety of physical disabilities, some who need support and some who do not. This shared living community promotes an independent living environment, provides the opportunity to work and volunteer, as well as the opportunity to participate in social and recreational activities. By utilizing Shared Community Support Services (funded through Medicaid), qualified roommates will have the ability to share the cost of personal staff.

Champions Community Foundation, Inc.
9820 Nesbit Ferry Road,
Johns Creek, GA 30022
678-777-3723
<http://www.championscommunityfoundation.org/champions-place/>



Chanan Foundation is a private non-profit corporation that provides day training, supported living, host home, and group home services for adults with developmental disabilities.

3136 Golf Ridge Blvd
Douglasville, GA 30135
678-715-9891
www.chananfoundation.org

Developmental Disabilities Ministries is a nonprofit, charitable corporation serving adults with developmental disabilities and their families. DDM owns/operates 18 group homes in Georgia, serving approximately 70 residents.

6320 Amherst Ct.
Norcross, GA 30092
770-623-4899
www.ddmga.org

disABILITY LINK is a Center for Independent Living (CIL) serving 12 Metro Atlanta counties, including Cobb. disABILITY LINK is led by and for people with disabilities and promotes full participation in community life through education, advocacy, and empowerment. Centers for Independent Living are non-profit, non-residential, community-based organizations, governed and staffed by people with disabilities, which offer a wide variety of services to people with disabilities, their families, and the community.

1901 Montreal Rd, Suite 102
Tucker, GA 30084
404-687-8890
www.disabilitylink.org

Eaton Academy offers the LEAP program. LEAP is designed for individuals to strengthen their overall life skills to achieve independence. Participants benefit from job readiness training, life skill development, and extensive social skill instruction. The goal of this program is to produce independent young adults by helping improve their job-related, social/emotional, and communications skills.

1000 Old Roswell Lakes Parkway
Roswell, GA 30076
770-645-2673
www.eatonacademy.org



Georgia Mentor's Host Home program provides individuals with developmental disabilities the opportunity to live with a Host Home provider, called Mentors. Mentors help individuals with disabilities thrive as an active part of the community. Their services are designed to provide each individual with personalized supports needed to thrive in the communities they call home.

Metro Atlanta– Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Services
2302 Parklake Dr. Suite 200
Atlanta, GA 30345
470-362-7202
www.ga-mentor.com

InCommunity provides community-based services and support to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities including residential support, employment services, respite care, family support, in-home care, and day programs. Day programs are available in Cobb and surrounding counties.

InCommunity Atlanta
1945 Cliff Valley Way NE, Suite 220
Atlanta, GA 30329

InCommunity Roswell
1200 Old Ellis Road
Roswell, GA 30076
www.incommunityga.org

Jewish Family & Career Services (JF&CS) is open to people of all faiths and offers programs and services that support individuals with disabilities, their families, and caregivers. IndependenceWORKS (IW) houses community access groups (day program), featuring supported employment and community integration programs with numerous outings and activities. The Zimmerman-Horowitz Independent Living Program (Z-H ILP) is an individualized living program enabling adults with disabilities to live as independently as possible in a 24-hour shared home or in their own home.

4549 Chamblee Dunwoody Road
Atlanta, GA 30338
770-677-9300
www.jfcsatl.org

Just People provides a variety of social activities and independent living assistance to adults with developmental disabilities to encourage full participation in the life of the community and enhance independent living skills. Just People also offers supported employment, social programs, and sports programs to the individuals living in their community.

1412 Oakbrook Drive
Norcross, GA 30093
770-441-1188
www.justpeople.org



The **Marietta Housing Authority** provides quality housing opportunities to clients, while fostering their economic independence, through responsible stewardship of public and private funds.

Marietta Housing Authority (Cobb County)
P.O. Drawer K
Marietta, GA 30061
770-419-3200
www.mariettahousingauthority.org

Saint Mary's Independent Living Extensions (SMILE) assists adults with disabilities in setting up their own home in their own communities to function independently within a secure framework. SMILE provides individual consultation and direction to help make the home sustainable. They also provide a 24-hour emergency or on call support.

120 Gloster Rd. NW, Suite 3
Lawrenceville, GA 30044
770-279-5115
www.smile4.info

Special Needs Cobb is the largest and original special needs organization in Cobb County with 24 current group homes, onsite weekend respite care and parental educational workshops (waivers, financial, emotional, informational) that focus on the support of the entire special needs family unit helping them navigate the aging-out-of-high-school issue and throughout the remainder of the lifespan of the disabled individual with life-planning support for aging or ill parents. From helping with the daunting paperwork, to providing the number of a local doctor, Special Needs Cobb is your developmental disabilities resource right in the community for life.

550 Kennesaw Ave., Suite 900
Marietta, GA 30060
770-427-8401
www.specialneedscoobb.org

The **Statewide Independent Living Council of Georgia, Inc. (SILC)** is a private nonprofit corporation governed by people with all types of disabilities from across the state. The role of the SILC is to identify societal barriers to independent living and to collaborate with Centers for Independent Living, Rehabilitation Services, and other related entities to remove those barriers and to increase the supports and services needed to create independent living opportunities.

315 West Ponce de Leon Ave, Suite #660
Decatur, GA 30030
770-270-6860
www.silcga.org



Tails of Hope provides service dog training for disabled individuals, special needs children, wounded veterans, and first responders.

22599 Hwy 85
Gay, GA 30218
678-804-8765
<https://tailsofhope.com/>

Tobii Dynavox provides communication apps, speech generating devices and eye trackers for people with disabilities.

Gillat Sternburg, Solutions Consultant, Northeast Georgia
Cell: 470-330-0703
<http://www.tobiidynavox.com>