

DDD ELIGIBILITY

A developmental disability is a disability that develops during childhood and impacts the child's development. Some people are born with developmental disabilities, while others develop them during early childhood. Causes are not always known, but may include: injuries, genetics, medical issues or toxins.

Arizona's definition of developmental disability includes the following four diagnoses:

- Cognitive Disability
- Cerebral Palsy
- Epilepsy
- Autism

Many children do not have a specific diagnosis, so DDD uses three ways to determine eligibility under the age of six:

- A child has a diagnosis of one of the four
- A child is determined to be "at risk" for one of the four (Down Syndrome and Fragile X are examples of conditions that automatically place a child "at risk")
- A child demonstrates a delay that may lead to one of the four

Service Coordinators should be aware of the different types of DDD eligibility and work with the child and family's core team to determine if the child is suspected of being DDD eligible.

When in doubt, send the information over to DDD to determine if the child is eligible.

If a referral is received through ALTCS, the team has 30 days to determine DDD eligibility.



Types of DDD Eligibility:

DD-Only

Team determines services and frequency provided by TBEIS providers. TBEIS contractor provides service coordination. Services are funded through private insurance, Family Cost Participation and DDD.

Targeted

Team determines services and frequency provided by TBEIS providers. DDD provides Service Coordination. Services are funded through AHCCCS health plan and/or DDD.

ALTCS-Eligible

Team determines services and frequency provided by TBEIS providers. DDD provides Service Coordination. Services are funded through ALTCS. The child may receive other services, such as respite, through ALTCS if there is a need.

LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK:

Cognitive Disabilities

Cognitive disabilities have to do with the way a person acquires and processes information.

A Cognitive Disability must be present from childhood (before the age of 18)

Autism

Autism is a brain disorder that begins in early childhood and persists throughout adulthood.

Autism affects three crucial areas of development:

- Communication
- Social interaction
- Creative or imaginative play.

Cerebral Palsy

Cerebral palsy is characterized by an inability to fully control motor function, particularly muscle control and coordination.

Cerebral palsy should not be confused with cognitive disabilities. Cerebral palsy simply affects muscles.

Epilepsy

Epilepsy is a neurological condition that results in seizures. A person may have seizures and not have epilepsy (such as seizures during a fever or a low blood sugar).

For more information on DDD:

<https://www.azdes.gov/ddd/about.asp>