

## General training information

### College of Direct Support

The College of Direct Support is a Web-based learning management system where learners can improve their skills in caring for people across disabilities. The College of Direct Support also offers online courses for frontline supervisors, lead workers and direct support professionals who want to move into supervisory roles.

Visit the [College of Direct Support](#) for more information about these and many other opportunities, resources and publications.

[CDS College of Frontline Supervision and Management](#) / [CDS Courses](#) / [CDS Disability-Focused Studies](#)

### County worker training

Disability Services Division offers a variety of training opportunities for county staff and others who work with home and community-based programs. Opportunities include videoconferences, classroom training and online learning modules.

- Download maps to training locations
- Find information on upcoming classroom training, videoconferences and Web-based learning opportunities
- Register for videoconferences, classes and complete e-learning modules
- Request a unique key (personal identification code needed to register for training)

[TrainLink](#) / [Disability Services Division Training News and Information](#)

### DSD learning opportunities

[Disability Services online learning modules](#) are available in TrainLink. Participants must have a Unique Key to register. New participants must [request a Unique Key](#). Returning users can take the module through the [Disability Services Learning Center](#)

### Partners in Policymaking®

*Partners in Policymaking®* is a classroom style leadership training program designed for adults with disabilities and for parents of young children with developmental disabilities. The program teaches leadership skills, and the process of developing positive partnerships with elected officials and other individuals who make the policy decisions about services that you and your family use. [More information on current classes and dates](#)

The following [online courses](#) are also available, at no cost, to anyone who would like to increase their knowledge and skills:

- Making Your Case helps people understand the legislative process and the essential elements of good advocacy.
- Partners in Education helps parents of children with developmental disabilities understand and maximize the special education system.
- Partners in Employment helps people with developmental disabilities find meaningful jobs and plan a career.
- Partners in Living helps people with developmental disabilities, their parents, family members and friends, educators and service providers understand the important concepts of self-determination, family support, community living and assistive technology.
- Partners in Time helps people with developmental disabilities, their parents, family members and friends, educators and service providers understand the history of society's treatment of people with disabilities from ancient times through the present.

### Support planner services

Consumer Directed Community Supports is a service available through Medical Assistance home and community-based waivers where a person can receive assistance with developing and implementing the Community Support Plan. Support planner services are provided by an individual or entity chosen by the recipient and are in addition to required case management activities. [Support Planner Service Standards \(PDF\)](#) were revised December 2008.

DSD is updating a training handout that reflects recent changes in support planner services and the certification process. A [2004 support planner training handout \(PDF\)](#) is currently available and includes:

- Philosophy of CDCS
- Key components of CDCS
- Overview of support planner services
- How to become a support planner
- Duties of a support planner

### Support Planner certification

To become a support planner, a person must successfully pass a test and receive a certificate from DHS. An assessment for the certificate is available through the TrainLink DSD Student Center at no cost to the user. People who wish to be paid as support planners through CDCS must have a certificate. [Support Planner Assessment flyer \(PDF\)](#)

### Additional resources

[Disability Services Division Resources \(PDF\)](#)

[Developmental Disability Screening Document Codebook](#)

[Disability Services Program Manual](#)

[Personal care assistance public Web site](#)

Let us know if you are unable to find information about Disability Services Division programs and services. [E-mail](#)

[DHS.Dsdtahelp@state.mn.us](mailto:DHS.Dsdtahelp@state.mn.us).