

# HOT TOPICS

## SUPPORTS FOR STUDENTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Presented by Parent Network of WNY - June 2018



Many students with disabilities receive supports and services through the special education process. **Students with developmental disabilities may be eligible for services through The Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD).** Eligible students can receive services from their school district and OPWDD.

In order to be **eligible for OPWDD services** the student must go through an eligibility process. To receive services the student **must**

**have significant challenges which limits their ability to function in the same way as other students their age.** They must have a qualifying diagnosis and the necessary documentation. While the qualifying disability must have occurred before the age of 22, **these services are designed to help people of all ages live their life, learn about new things, become employed and participate in recreational activities.** To learn more about the requirements check out our [Eligibility Program](#).

# SUPPORTS FOR STUDENTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Presented by Parent Network of WNY - June 2018

Over the past year there have been some changes in the OPWDD system often happening quickly. **Often the information provided is long and complicated.** Parent Network of WNY was awarded a three-year grant from the Peter and Elizabeth Tower Foundation to fund a project called [Guide and Connect](#) keeping you in the loop about disability services. **The goal of this project is to help families and the community stay informed about services for individuals with developmental disabilities and keep up to date with all the changes.** Information will be provided in family friendly language in various formats. There will be written materials for each topic with a corresponding media version such as videos, podcasts and webinars.



## Guide & Connect

KEEPING YOU IN THE LOOP

[ABOUT DISABILITY SERVICES](#)

Learn More  
[GuideAndConnect.org](http://GuideAndConnect.org)

BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
**PARENT NETWORK**  
OF WESTERN NEW YORK

**Families and members of the community are encouraged to subscribe to Guide and Connect...** keeping you in the loop to receive **alerts when new topics have been released** and are available on the website. Subscribers are able to choose how they would like to receive the announcements. For those who prefer a printed copy of the information they can select USPS mail. Email and text announcements with links to the page on the Guide and Connect website are also available. [Sign Up Now!](#)