

What is the Developmental Disability & Acquired Brain Disorder (DD/ABD) Wait List?

PEOPLE
CAN'T
WAIT

The Wait List is how we identify those who need funding to receive services for a developmental disability or an acquired brain disorder. Typically, individuals are placed on the wait list when:

- They graduate or exit their local school system
- They are a new resident to NH
- There is a significant change in the individual's condition or family situation that requires additional services.

Why we Need to Continue to Fund the Wait List!

Wait list funding in the state budget does two main things: first, it allows individuals to begin to receive services and supports as they leave school and enter adulthood. Second, wait list funding enables existing services to be adjusted and enhanced when necessary and appropriate.

RSA 171-A: The Law!

RSA 171-A was the law created to emphasize supports and services be provided to individuals in the community. It supports individuals to have choice in their services, allow an opportunity for gainful employment and to build meaningful relationships. A section of this law states that **individuals that are found eligible for services shall not wait longer than 90 days to receive them**. When there is not enough funding, some individuals wait longer than the 90 days that the law outlines, thus, creating a wait list.

Individuals are consistently entering the system with the rise of students receiving special education services as well as caregivers aging and being unable to care for their adult son or daughter.



Looking Forward

In the past 10 years, there has been strong bipartisan support by Governors and the Legislature to support full funding of the wait list.

As a result, the Department of Health and Human Services has reported that no individuals have had to wait for service funding in the past two years (there has been no wait list since September 2020).

It is critical that the next state budget build upon the strong record of support for developmental services in our state.



CSNI is the association to the ten area agencies in NH.
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