

Developmental Disabilities Administration *Assessment*

Information for persons with developmental disabilities

What is the DDA Assessment?

The Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Assessment is a group of questions that your Case Manager will ask you to help decide what supports you need. It is a way to help DDA do the best job it can for you.

There are three parts to the DDA Assessment:

1. The first part of the assessment asks questions about the supports that you need to live in the community and to take part in activities that everyone does.
2. The second part asks questions about help that you need with personal care and daily living activities such as eating, bathing, dressing, etc.
3. The third part is the plan that explains the supports and services you will receive and who provides the supports.

When do I receive the DDA Assessment?

You will receive an assessment before you begin receiving services from the Developmental Disabilities Administration. If you are already receiving services, you will have a new assessment every year.

Why does my Case Manager use the DDA Assessment?

DDA wants to ask every person the same questions. Case Managers use computers to help them remember to ask all the important questions and get your answers written down. This will help DDA make sure that everyone's abilities are measured in the same way and nothing is overlooked.

What does it mean for me?

The DDA Assessment will help your Case Manager learn what your abilities are and what you need to help you plan for the future.

Can I fail it?

No, you cannot fail it. The DDA Assessment is about you and your abilities and needs. There are no right or wrong answers, just your answers.

What if I don't understand the questions?

You can have someone with you who will help you answer the questions. You can choose who that person is. If you have a guardian, that person will be invited to be at the meeting also.

How long will it take?

The DDA Assessment usually takes about 2 to 4 hours. If it gets too long for you, you can ask your Case Manager to do part of it on one day and part on another day.

What if I don't want to answer the questions?

You can choose not to answer the questions, but if you want to have services from DDA, you or your representative will need to answer them.

What happens after I answer all the questions?

After you answer all of the questions, your Case Manager will help you make a plan for the coming year. The plan will explain the services and supports that you will receive and who will provide the supports. Your Case Manager will give you a copy of the plan.

What if I don't like my plan?

Your Case Manager will explain to you that you have the right to an appeal, which means you can tell someone else why you disagree with the plan. The person who reviews the appeal will decide what happens next.

What if my needs change?

If your needs change, call your Case Manager to schedule a time to share new information.

What if I still have questions about the new DDA Assessment?

Call your Case Manager or visit the DDA Assessment website at:
www.dshs.wa.gov/ddd/CAP.shtml