Resource Guide
2020

starsaz.org
STARS – ARIZONA RESOURCE GUIDE
For The Families, Guardians and Individuals With Developmental And Cognitive Disabilities

STARS has developed this guide to help individuals with developmental and cognitive disabilities to find the best resources for their situation.

Arizona Disability Contacts


Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (AZDD) (602) 542-8970 https://addpc.az.gov/


Autism Society of America, Greater Phoenix Area (480) 940-1093 https://phxautism.org/

Brain Injury Alliance of Arizona (888) 500-8024 http://biaaz.org/

Down Syndrome Network of Arizona (480) 759-9150 www.dsnetworkaz.org

Epilepsy Foundation of Arizona (602) 282-3515 https://epilepsyaz.org/

MassMutual AZ (480) 538-2900 https://arizona.massmutual.com

Muscular Dystrophy Associations (480) 496-4530 https://www.mda.org/

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Arizona http://www.namiarizona.org/

Southwest Human Development (for Children) (602) 266-5976 https://www.swhd.org/

United Cerebral Palsy of Central Arizona (888) 943-5472 https://ucpofcentralaz.org/

Vocational Rehab (VR) (602) 470-1802 https://ucpofcentralaz.org/
**Advocacy**

ABLE Act National Resource Center (202) 683-6094  
http://www.ablenrc.org

Arizona Center for Disability Law-Central Phoenix (602) 277-4986  
https://www.autismspeaks.org/resource/governors-council-development-disabilities

Arizona Assoc. of Providers for people with Disabilities (AAPPD) (602) 510-9373  
http://www.aappd.org/

Autism Resource Center (AACAP)  
https://www.aacap.org/aacap/families_and_youth/resource_centers/autism_resource_center/home.aspx

Autism Speaks (888) 288-4762  
https://www.autismspeaks.org/

Arizona Autism United (602) 773-5773  
https://azaunited.org/

Disability Benefits 101 (1-866-304-9675)  
https://az.db101.org/az

Governor’s Council on Development Disabilities (602) 274-6287  
https://www.azdisabilitylaw.org/

Sonoran UCEDO (520) 626-0442  
http://sonoranucedd.fcm.arizona.edu/

Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center (602) 340-8717  
https://www.autismcenter.org/

Accommodations for Students with Autism  
https://www.justgreatlawyers.com/students-with-autism

**Adult Day Programs**

STARS – Scottsdale Training and Rehabilitation Services (480) 994-5704  
http://www.starsaz.org/

**After School and Summer Programs**

STARS – Scottsdale Training and Rehabilitation Services for Ages 7-22, (480) 994-5704  
http://www.starsaz.org/
Education Services
U.S. Department of Education 1-800-872-5327
https://www2.ed.gov

Arizona Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) 1-844-770-9500,
https://des.az.gov/services/disabilities/developmental-disabilities

Health Care
Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) (ALTCS) (602) 417-4000
https://www.azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/Initiatives/CareCoordination/behavioralhealth.html

Phoenix Children’s Hospital (602) 933-1000

Indian Health Services (HIS) (602) 364-5300
https://www.ihs.gov/phoenix/

NOAH Health Center (Cholla Facility) (480) 882-4545
There are several locations throughout the Valley
http://www.noahhelps.org/

Pacific Dental Services Foundation
Dentists for Special Needs (602) 344-9530
4550 E. Bell Rd, Ste #106, Phoenix, AZ
https://www.pdsfoundation.org/programs/special-needs/dentists-for-special-needs

Recreation & Camp Programs
Ability360 Sports & Fitness Center (602) 386-4566
http://www.Ability360.org

Arizona Magic of Music & Dance Experience
http://www.azmagic.org/

Arizona Recreation Center for the Handicapped (ARCH) (602) 230-2226
https://archaz.org/

Arizona Special Olympics (602) 230-1200
http://www.specialolympicsarizona.org/

Best Buddies International, Arizona Chapter (602) 253-6301
arizona@bestbuddies.org
Camelot Therapeutic Horsemanship (480) 515-1542
http://camelotaz.org/
Civitan Foundation & Camp (602) 953-2944
http://www.civantafoundationaz.com/

Detour Theatre Company (provides theater training and performance experiences)
https://detourcompanytheatre.org/programs
To find out information e-mail Sam at: sam@detourcompanytheatre.org

Horses Help (602) 569-6056
https://www.horseshelp.org/

Jodi and Friends (602) 275-2568
Social events & Camps
https://www.joninandfriends.org/arizona/

Lions Camp Tatiyee (480) 380-4254
Yearly Camping Event
http://www.arizonalionscamp.org/

Miracle League of Arizona (480) 686-8137
https://mlaz.org/

Recreational Horizons (480) 253-0520
https://www.recreationalhorizons.com/

Scottsdale Adaptive Services (Scottsdale Parks & Recreation) (480) 312-2234
http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/social-services/adaptive-services

United Art of Arizona (602) 852-0420
http://www.unitedartaz.com/

Whispering Hope Ranch Foundation (602) 266-2216
https://whisperinghoperanch.org/who-we-serve

Contact your local City Parks & Recreation, most have the Adaptive Recreation Program

Support Information

Arion Care Solutions, LLC. (480) 722-1300
http://arioncaresolutions.com/

Autism Support Network Resources
http://www.autismsupportnetwork.com/resources

Center for Autism Research & Educations (CARE) (602) 277-2273
http://www.center4autism.org/contact-us
Epilepsy Foundation of Arizona (602) 282-3515  
https://epilepsyaz.org/

“Sharing” Down Syndrome (480) 926-6500  
https://www.sharingds.org/about-us/

### Residential Services

Arion Care Solutions, LLC. (480) 722-1300  
http://arioncaresolutions.com/

Arizona Training and Evaluation Center (Residential Services), Phoenix, AZ (623) 412-2888  
https://www.aztec1.org/

A Place to Call Home, Mesa, AZ (480) 456-0549  
http://www.tocallhome.com/

### Transportation

Valley Metro (Dial-a-ride) (602) 716-2100  
https://www.valleymetro.org/dial-ride

LYFT (can only sign-up by Website or App)  
https://www.lyft.com/

UBER (can only sign-up by Website or App)  
https://www.uber.com/ride/

VMI Mobility Center (602) 385-5999  
https://www.vmimobilitycenter.com/handicap-accessible-vans

### Miscellaneous Services

Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) 1-800-767-2445  
https://dcs.az.gov/

Autism and Travel  
https://www.thezebra.com/traveling-autism/

AZ Nutrition Assistance (Formerly Food Stamp Services) 1-855-432-7587  
https://des.az.gov/services/basic-needs/food/nutrition-assistance-formerly-food-stamp-program

Chicanos por la Causa, Inc. (602) 257-0700  
https://www.cplc.org/

Creating an Autism Friendly Home  
Applying for SSI Benefits on Behalf of Someone with an Intellectual Disability

If you have a family member with an intellectual disability, you know that the cost of medical bills, therapy, care, and more can add up. Due to the additional cost faced by thousands of families, the Social Security Administration (SSA) offers financial assistance for parents of children with disabilities.

What is Supplemental Security Income?
For children under the age of 18, the SSA offers Supplemental Security Income, or SSI. The maximum SSI payment is $733 per month, but the average family will receive around $500. SSI is a needs-based program. This means that if your family has a high income, you will unfortunately not qualify, regardless of your child’s disability.

The SSA will deem a family’s income and assets when evaluating an applicant. Not all of your income will be included in the asset deeming process. The larger your family, the higher your income can be. A single parent with one disabled child can earn around $36,000 per year before becoming disqualified for SSI benefits. Again, having a spouse or more children will raise this asset limit. The SSA has a chart with the income limits for families available online.

How Does My Child Qualify for Benefits Medically?
Disability applicants are evaluated via the SSA’s Blue Book. The Blue Book is a medical guide with hundreds of disabilities that can potentially qualify for benefits, plus the required test results or symptoms for an applicant to be approved. There is a version of the Blue Book specifically for children. Overall, children have an easier time qualifying medically for disability benefits. Some listed disabilities include:

* Autism  * ADHD  * Down syndrome  * Anxiety disorders  * Intellectual disability
* Psychotic disorders  * Mood disorders

Every child will qualify for benefits differently, depending on the disability he or she has been diagnosed with. For example, the vast majority of children with Down syndrome will automatically qualify after just showing that a karyotype analysis has diagnosed their genetic variance. Children with autism, however, will need to have strong medical evidence that shows that they show all three of the following:

* Lack of interest in social interaction  * Lack of verbal and nonverbal communication
* Lack of interests or participation in activities.
If your child has a disability that is not listed in the Blue Book, or does not meet his or her disability’s listing, you can still medically qualify for benefits. This will be done by evaluating how your child functions. If your child has difficulty in the following three areas he or she could still qualify:

- A “marked impairment” in age appropriate cognitive abilities, which can often be proved by evaluations or the testimony from individuals who have knowledge of your child

- A “marked impairment” in age appropriate social functioning, which includes playing with other children or following the direction of an adult.

- A “marked impairment” in age appropriate personal functioning, which can include getting dressed, brushing teeth, washing up, or other personal tasks or chores.

The entire Blue Book can be found online, so you can review the intellectual disability listing with your child’s doctor to get a better idea as to whether he or she will qualify for SSI benefits.

**Starting Your Application**

If you are applying for disability benefits on behalf of a child with an intellectual disability, you’ll need to complete the application in person at your closest Social Security office. There are more than 1,300 SSA offices located across the country. To make an appointment to complete the SSI paperwork, simply call the SSA toll free at 1-800-772-1213.

**Resources:**

Stars AZ
[https://www.starsaz.org/](https://www.starsaz.org/)

Qualify for SSI

Blue Book Listing for Mental Disorders
[https://www.ssa.gov/disability/professionals/bluebook/112.00-MentalDisorders-Childhood.htm](https://www.ssa.gov/disability/professionals/bluebook/112.00-MentalDisorders-Childhood.htm)

Blue Book Listing for Childhood Impairments

Local SSA Offices