

Resource Guide 2020



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

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

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

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-developmental-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

<http://www.phoenixchildrens.org/medical-specialties/developmental-pediatrics/resources/office-of-children-with>

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.civitanfoundationaz.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.joniandfriends.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
<https://www.bigrentz.com/blog/sensory-friendly-home-modifications-autism-sensory-processing-disorder>

Gesher Disability Resources (Formerly: Council for Jews with Special Needs) (480) 629-5343
<https://gesherdr.org/>

Planning a Move with Autism
<https://www.yourstoragefinder.com/moving-with-autism>

30 Ways to Celebrate Autism Awareness Month
<https://praacticalaac.org/praactical/30-ways-to-celebrate-autism-awareness-month/>

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/>

Qualify for SSI

<https://www.disability-benefits-help.org/ssi/qualify-for-ssi>

Blue Book Listing for Mental Disorders

<https://www.ssa.gov/disability/professionals/bluebook/112.00-MentalDisorders-Childhood.htm>

Blue Book Listing for Childhood Impairments

<https://www.ssa.gov/disability/professionals/bluebook/ChildhoodListings.htm>

Local SSA Offices

<https://www.disability-benefits-help.org/social-security-disability-locations>