

## Developmental Services Ontario (DSO)

**Program** As of July 1, 2011, DSO is the point of access to apply for all Ministry funded adult developmental services and supports and the primary contact for information about developmental supports and services. The DSO is responsible for supporting adults with a developmental disability through a new application process to access MCSS funded services and supports.

**Eligibility** In order for a person to be eligible for adult developmental services, the DSO requires documentation confirming age, Ontario residency, and a psychological assessment to determine if the individual has a developmental disability.

**Who Can Benefit** Once an individual has been confirmed eligible, the application package will be completed. The application is made up of 2 parts: The **Application for Developmental Services and Supports (ADSS.)** This part of the application process helps us get to know the person a little better. Next, we will schedule a time to complete the **Supports Intensity Scale (SIS)**. This part of the application tells us about the level of support a person needs to be successful in a variety of areas. These areas include: home living, community activities, lifelong learning, employment, social activities and protection and advocacy. We will also talk about support the person might need for different medical or behavioural issues.

**Program Features** If an individual is eligible, DSO staff will discuss with the client their needs and goals, and help he/she to fill out an application. DSO staff will then create a support plan that will list services and supports that could be available to the individual.

Based on current resources and needs, the DSO will let the individual know if services and supports funded by the ministry are available. If these are not available right away, staff will follow up once they become available. DSO staff may also be able to provide information about other programs in the community that are not part of services and supports funded by the ministry.

**Principles** DSO is part of the Developmental Services transformation and operates on the principles of:  
Fairness, Citizenship, Accountability, Portable and Flexible Funding, Sustainability, and Safety

**Reach Us** To reach the DSO North East Region, please call 1-855-376-6376 or e-mail us at [dso@handstfhn.ca](mailto:dso@handstfhn.ca). For more information visit [www.DSOntario.ca](http://www.DSOntario.ca). Hours of operation are Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm.

