

Navigator Support

Are you between 16-24 years old
and have a developmental disability?

Would you like help
planning for adulthood?

Moving into adulthood is an exciting and important time.

It can also be scary to make decisions about your future, but starting to plan early can make things go more smoothly.

A new **navigator** service is available to help you and your family plan and access services and supports as you move to adulthood.

What is a navigator?

Your navigator is someone who acts as a single point of contact to help you with your planning.

Start planning early

Planning ahead will help you make good decisions about your future, such as:

- where you are going to live
- whether you want to find a job or continue your education
- what kinds of activities you may want to try

You can start planning ahead while you are still in school.

Planning involves you, your family, and people you know who can help you achieve your goals.

How can a navigator help you?

A navigator can help you:

- ✓ Coordinating a plan that includes your goals and decisions
- ✓ Bring together a support team of people to work with you such as your family, trusted friends, teachers and employment counsellors
- ✓ Serve as your single point of contact with government agencies and many community services
- ✓ Give you clear, reliable information about services and supports
- ✓ Explore opportunities to be involved in your community and develop new connections

How does the navigator service work?

You work in partnership with a navigator, and you have the key role on your support team.

You share your goals, interests, and questions, and you can tell a navigator what supports you think would be helpful.

How do you know if you are eligible?

You can get help from a navigator if you are between the ages of 16 and 24 and have a developmental disability.

A navigator can help explain the process needed to confirm a developmental disability.

How do you get started with a navigator?

- You or your family can talk to staff at your school or your Ministry of Children and Family Development social worker. They can refer you to the program.
- You can talk to your CLBC contact and CLBC can make the referral.
- You or a family member can call **1 855 356-5609** and talk to a program administrator who can direct you to a navigator in your area.

Where can you find a navigator?

The new services are available in these communities:

- Prince George
- Haida Gwaii
- Kamloops
- Merritt
- Nanaimo
- Parksville/Qualicum
- Courtenay
- Surrey

More about the new integrated service delivery model and the new services:

Developing a more integrated approach to planning is an important part of improving services for people with developmental disabilities.

The new services have opened in some communities to test and fine-tune the new model before putting it into action around the province. (An additional site for older adults age 55 and over is in Burnaby.)

In addition to the new navigator service, there is a new web-based system for gathering and collecting information.

The new system means you and the people who help support you can collect important information about you in one place to make sure you get the best support possible.

You will need to give your permission to have a navigator and for your support team to use the web-based system. If you are under 19 years old, a parent or legal guardian will also need to agree.

For more information on the new **Services to Adults with Development Disabilities** program, visit: www.sd.gov.bc.ca/pwd/isst.html

Or telephone:
1 855 356-5609



Ministry of
Social Development
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