



What is I/DD?

I/DD stands for intellectual or developmental disability. There are many kinds of intellectual or developmental disabilities (I/DD). Some commonly recognized I/DD's are: Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), Fragile X and Prader-Willi Syndrome.

Some causes of I/DD, such as chromosome abnormality, neurological disorder or physical injury, are known. However, there are some I/DD's where the cause remains unknown.

An intellectual disability means a significantly

low general intellectual function (usually an IQ of 70 or below), and adaptive behavior deficits (difficulty with personal independence and social responsibility) which occurs during the developmental period (before age of 18).¹

A developmental disability means a severe, chronic disability attributed to a mental/cognitive or physical impairment or combination of impairments diagnosed before the age of 22.² The condition is likely to continue indefinitely and substantially limits the person in three (3) or more life areas: self-care; receptive/expressive language; learning; mobility; self-direction; independent living; or economic self-sufficiency. Young children with a substantial developmental delay or specific condition may be considered to have a developmental disability without meeting three or more of the criteria if there is a high probability of meeting those criteria later in life.

The four levels of I/DD are usually referred to as mild, moderate, severe or profound. The level of intellectual disability is the main factor that determines the degree of outside assistance the person with I/DD needs to live a comfortable, productive life. People with mild I/DD may drive, live independently, hold full-

¹ 40 T.A.C. 5.153 (13)

² 40 T.A.C. 42.103 (34)

time jobs and need little to no supervision or assistance in their daily life activities, while people with moderate I/DD may need more intensive training and support to carry out an independent life in the community. People with severe or profound I/DD may have multiple disabilities and need more intensive physical care, therapy and supervision to live safely in the community.

People with I/DD or a “related condition”³ may qualify with the state of Texas to receive a Medicaid Waiver⁴ program to help pay for community living supports, therapies, healthcare and more.⁵ Eligibility for Medicaid Waiver programs is based on a person’s disability. To learn more about Medicaid Waiver programs and supports and services for people with I/DD, contact your local Texas Health and Human Services (THHS) office or Local Intellectual and Developmental Disability Authority (LIDDA). The LIDDA for Fort Bend County is Texana Authority.

People with I/DD experience common emotions like joy, sadness, anger and boredom. Just like anyone people with I/DD learn, adjust socially and can benefit from training/education, and meaningful work opportunities. When given the individualized supports and services to adapt and participate, people with I/DD contribute in meaningful ways and are valued community members.

Contact the Local Intellectual and Developmental Disability Authority (LIDDA) or Texas Health and Human Services (THHS) for more information about I/DD and available supports and services.

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4706 Airport Ave.
Rosenberg, TX 77471
281-239-1363
www.texanacenter.com

Texas Health & Human Services
877-438-5658
hhs.texas.gov/services/disability

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³ 42 C.F.R. 435.1010

⁴ Social Security Act 1915(c) 42 U.S.C. 1396n

⁵ <https://hhs.texas.gov/> Texas Health and Human Services. What are Home and Community Based Services.