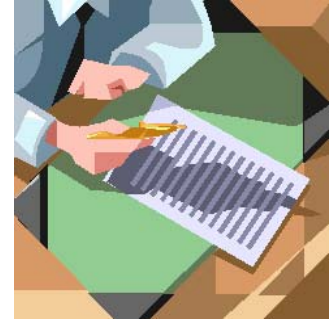


**Point of Entry to Services in Illinois for
Individuals with Developmental Disabilities**

Register for PUNS!



PUNS stands for Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services

- ❖ The **Illinois Division of Developmental Disabilities** uses the PUNS database to identify who needs services and what services they need.
- ❖ Persons are **chosen based on urgency of needs** through a random draw as governmental funding becomes available.
- ❖ People are selected from this database to get help with:
 - ✓ In-home supports for independent living
 - ✓ Respite care to provide temporary relief to caregivers
 - ✓ Entry into Day Services, sheltered workshops or supported employment
 - ✓ Training Programs to teach life and work skills
 - ✓ Job coaches to help with training and success in the workplace
 - ✓ Emergency or long-term placement in residential living facilities
 - ✓ Adaptive equipment to promote independence
 - ✓ Other supports to improve quality of life

To fill out the PUNS form:

- ❖ Contact the local **Independent Service Coordination Agency (ISC)** and ask for an appointment to register for PUNS. To find your local ISC Agency:
 - ✓ Call DHS at: 1-888-DD-PLANS
 - ✓ Visit online: www.dd.illinois.gov
 - ✓ Call Illinois Life Span at: 1-800-588-7002
 - ✓ View DD PUNS Brochure at:
 - Services: <http://www.dhs.state.il.us/OneNetLibrary/27897/documents/Brochures/4309.pdf>
 - PUNS: <http://www.dhs.state.il.us/OneNetLibrary/27897/documents/Brochures/4313.pdf>
- ❖ Arrange a time to meet with a Pre-Admission Screener. He/she will ask questions about individual and family needs. Needs are divided into:
 - ✓ **Emergency** – needed immediately
 - ✓ **Critical** – needed within a year
 - ✓ **Planning** – needed within the next 5 years
- ❖ The PUNS should be **updated yearly** or anytime needs change.

We're here to help. To learn more about UIC-Specialized Care for Children's programs and services, check out our website at:

dscc.uic.edu or like us on



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