

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** as governmental funding becomes available. At age 18 individuals will be reassessed by the **Independent Service Coordination Agency**.
- ❖ 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](http://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:
  - ✓ **Seeking Services** – needed within the year
  - ✓ **Planning for Services** – person doesn't need services for at least a year or caregiver is older than 60 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:

[dsc.uic.edu](http://dsc.uic.edu) or like us on  [facebook.com/dsc.uic.edu](https://facebook.com/dsc.uic.edu)