

What do DSACs do?

Disability Services Advisory Councils give feedback on state policy guidelines and issues that affect people with disabilities. DSACs work closely with state and local agencies in Oregon to advise, educate and promote person-centered services, independence, and improved quality of life for people with disabilities.

Why is it important to join?

DSAC members are volunteers who feel passionate about advocating for people with disabilities. Members use their diverse perspectives and experiences to help local and state officials understand the needs of people with disabilities to help in policy making, budgeting and service provision.

What's expected of me as a DSAC member?

People who serve on the councils should:

- Clearly understand the purpose of the DSAC.
- Regularly attend meetings.
- Complete assigned work between meetings, including preparing for meetings by reading reports and background material.
- Learn about the history, goals, consumers and constituency, staff, current situations, and needs of related state programs.
- Focus on solutions to service barriers.
- Participate in the discussions at the meetings.
- Promote positive working relationships.
- Act as an advocate for the agency and its consumers.

What kinds of work will I be doing?

DSAC members:

- Provide feedback on policy guidelines for clients who receive services.
- Review and evaluate the effectiveness of the services provided by The Oregon Department of Human Services, including Medicaid services and food benefits.
- Review information to determine impact on consumers and provide feedback.
- Determine if the offices are accessible.
- Collaborate with other organizations and community resources.

What is the time commitment?

Each DSAC usually meets once a month for two hours. Depending on tasks assigned during meetings (planning, research, writing) you may spend additional time outside of meetings working to achieve DSAC goals.

Is transportation to meetings provided?

Most DSAC meetings are hosted in a hybrid format meaning you can attend in person, online or by phone. Travel reimbursements for mileage are available. Your local DSAC support staff can help with this.

If you attend online and need accessibility accommodations such as interpreting, captions or technology assistance, please let us know. If you prefer to attend in person and need help with interpreters or transportation, please let us know.

How can I learn more?

You can learn more on the DSAC website at:

<https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/agency/pages/dsac.aspx> or by sending an email to: oregon.dsac@odhsoha.oregon.gov