



## 2021/2022 SELF-ADVOCATE APPLICATION INFORMATION



*“When I got my brain injury I had a choice of just giving up or get back up, fight and never give up almost every day, most of the time I was fighting through therapy and everything life was throwing at me. Through everything I have went through has brought me here today in Partners in Policymaking. I’m here today because I want to help those who are not able to speak very well or at all and those who are afraid to speak up but also want to see change.” -Korynne Donehey, 2016 Graduate*

## **What is Partners in Policymaking?**

The Idaho Partners in Policymaking program is a leadership development program. It teaches adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities how to speak up for themselves and for other people with disabilities. It teaches adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities how to get their needs with people who make rules and laws about things important to them.

The goal of Partners is to give people the tools they need to live the lives they choose.

People chosen for the program will learn:

- How people may choose where to live;
- How people may work;
- How to get support needed for home and work;
- How to speak up;
- How to work with policy makers to make positive change;
- How to make goals and reach them;

Most of all, people in the program meet others who become like “family” and learn how to help each other reach their goals and dreams.

### **As a Graduate you will:**

- ✓ Learn to speak up for yourself
- ✓ Learn about the history of people with disabilities
- ✓ Learn about person-centered planning and supported decision making
- ✓ Learn about resources to help you work
- ✓ Learn how to go to college or a trade school
- ✓ Learn to tell your story to make change
- ✓ Learn how a bill becomes a law
- ✓ Learn how you can help change laws in Idaho
- ✓ Meet people who work at local, state, and national agencies will share ideas and ways to help you create the life you want
- ✓ Learn skills to help you have hard conversations
- ✓ Make friends for a lifetime

## Who Should Apply?

The Council is seeking twenty motivated and enthusiastic adults who either have and intellectual or developmental disabilities or are parents of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities to participate in the 2021 class of Idaho Partners in Policymaking. Preference will be given but not limited to:

- ✓ **Adults with developmental disabilities (over 18 years of age)**
- ✓ **Parents of young children (ages birth to 10 years) who have intellectual and developmental disabilities**

## If I Am Chosen, What Do I have to Do?

- ✓ **Attend all eight two-day sessions (commitment is mandatory)**
- ✓ **Complete all homework assignments between sessions**

If selected for the program the Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities will pay for lodging, meals, travel and personal care support - if needed. Financial assistance for childcare is also available. All participants are expected to stay overnight.

Partner graduates agree that making this time commitment is well worth the life changing results.

## 2021-2022 Program Dates

### 2021 Dates

**September 10 - 11, 2021**

**October 15 - 16, 2021**

**November 12 - 13, 2021**

**No session in December**

### 2022 Dates

**January 7 - 8, 2022**

**February 9 - 10, 2022 (Wednesday & Thursday)**

**March 11 - 12, 2022**

**April 8 - 9, 2022**

**May 20 - 21, 2022**

All sessions are held on a Friday and Saturday with the exception of the February session. The February session is held on a Wednesday and Thursday to allow participants to experience the Idaho Legislature. All sessions start at 12:00 PM on Friday and end at 4:00 PM on Saturday. No session will take place the month of December.

Individuals selected for the **2021-2022 Idaho Partners in Policymaking® program** will be notified on or before **July 23, 2021**. For additional information or to request an alternate format, please contact:

**Miguel Juarez**  
**Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities**

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Boise, ID 83702-5868

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Fax: 208-334-2178

Toll Free: 1-800-544-2433

To view the national Partners in Policymaking® curriculum please visit:  
<http://mn.gov/mnddc/partnersinpolicymaking/whatispartners.html>

**Early Application is Encouraged,**  
**All Applications must be received by mail, fax, or e-mail by**  
**Monday, July 12, 2021 to be considered.**



IDAHO COUNCIL ON  
**DEVELOPMENTAL**  
**DISABILITIES**





**2021-2022 PARTNER IN POLICYMAKING  
SELF-ADVOCATE APPLICATION**  
Applications must be received by mail, fax, or  
email by **Monday, July 12, 2021**

**I live**

Alone in an apartment or house

With roommates in an  
apartment or house

With my parents

In a group home

In a state institution

In a Certified Family Home

In a nursing home or assisted  
living facility

Other (please describe):

Describe your disability and how it impacts your daily life.



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**Your Personal Story**

On this page tell us about yourself, your family, and why you want to be in this program. What do you hope to get out of the program? **Your detailed response to this question is a very important part of the application. Attach more sheets of paper if needed.**





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email by **Monday, July 12, 2021**

## References

List two references. Include name, address, and phone number with area codes.

**Reference 1:**

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

**Reference 2:**

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

How did you learn about the Idaho Partners in Policymaking Program?

### **\*Developmental Disabilities Definition**

The term “developmental disabilities” is a severe disability that has continued or is expected to continue indefinitely; and

A. is caused by a mental or physical impairment or a combination of mental and physical impairments;

B. occurs before the person is age twenty-two;

C. is likely to continue indefinitely;

D. results in significant limitations in three or more of the following major life activities:

- self-care
- receptive and expressive language
- learning
- mobility
- self-direction
- capacity for independent living
- economic self-sufficiency

E. results in the need for special, interdisciplinary, or generic care, treatment, or other services which are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated;

F. or could result in **infants and young children** who have substantial developmental delays, or specific congenital or acquired conditions having life-long developmental disabilities if services are not provided. *Source: Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-402).*