



PUNS Categories

PUNS is a database of individuals who want or need Developmental Disability waiver services funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services/Division of Developmental Disabilities. As funding is available, individuals are selected from the PUNS and invited to apply for DD Waiver services.

TWO Categories: As of 2018 PUNS has 2 categories: **Seeking Services** (for people who currently need or desire supports) and **Planning for Services** (for people who do not currently want or need supports but may in the future). www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=41131

PUNS selections are based on a person's cumulative length of time in the

Seeking Services Category: Note: If you are not in the Seeking Services Category and you are currently in need of supports, you must request that your Independent Service Coordination (ISC) Agency move you to the "Seeking Services" category. When you request a move to "Seeking Services" you also need to indicate whether you will opt for Home Based Services or Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA) services. The Division of Developmental Disabilities plans that by 2025, a person age 18 or older in the Seeking Services Category, will be selected from the PUNS within 5 years from the time they moved to the Seeking Services category. For example, by 2025 a person in the Seeking Services category at age 18 would receive a PUNS selection by age 23, and by 2025, a person who moves to Seeking Services at age 26 will receive a PUNS selection by age 31, etc... Time on the PUNS in the Planning for Services category does not count toward a PUNS selection. (Ligas Implementation Plan, Exhibit A, 5/3/19).

ISCs will enroll individuals in the Seeking Services category who are in any of these situations:

- Persons whose caregiver is clearly progressing toward being unable to provide care for any number of reasons (age of the caregiver, physical/psychological/health condition of caregiver, health or other situation of the individual). The individual and/or family are coping for now but supports are needed.
- The individual him/herself has a deteriorating situation, which requires formal supports.
- Cases where, although the caregiver and person with developmental disabilities have not been directly affected, a death in the family (especially of a care giver's spouse or other family

member who may have assisted in providing care) or other circumstance has affected their situation requiring a need for additional support.

- Situations where the caregiver(s) must work to provide income to pay the rent, etc. If services are not provided, the caregiver(s) would have to remain at home to provide support, and effectively be unable to continue working.
- Persons who have (or will shortly) graduate from school and will need day supports (i.e., there are no other employment or other day support options available/planned).
- Person is dissatisfied with current setting and would like to have DD residential services.
- Person prefers to live in his/her own home rather than in a funded residential setting but would need supports to do so.
- Person currently lives in out-of-home residential setting that is not funded by the Division of DD and wishes to return to their family home (and family concurs). The family is capable of providing care but would like support to return this person to the home.

ISCs will enroll in the Planning for Services category individuals who are:

- Not currently seeking services but will be seeking if something happens to the caregiver (e.g. caregiver becomes ill or passes away) or other family circumstances change.
- Currently receive funding or services through entities other than DD, and whose eligibility will be terminating primarily due to the age of the individual. This person is not in crisis and does not have a current need or desire for DD services. This might include, but is not limited to, persons who are funded through:

Early, Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) program

Medically Fragile/Technology Dependent Children's Waiver

Individual Care Grant supports through the mental health system

Illinois State Board of Education or public school system.

www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=68933