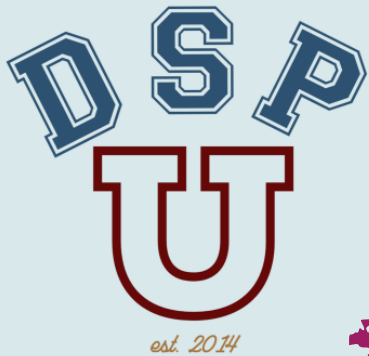


Portage

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DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

DD



What is a DSP?

Direct Support Professionals help individuals with I/DD (intellectual/developmental disabilities) live their best lives. By working with each person's unique strengths and challenges, DSPs give physical, educational, and "real life" support wherever it's needed, aiding individuals as they seek success at work, at home, and within their communities.

DSPs make everyday things possible, like

- Dressing, eating, and personal care
- Getting to work, school, doctor's appointments, and visiting friends and family
- Cooking, cleaning, laundry, and other household chores
- Taking medication and managing health-related conditions



Why be a DSP?

As a DSP, every day you'll know you did something important.
You will be valued.

You will learn a lot about yourself and what you are capable of.

You'll learn how to be a better caretaker, and a better listener.

Being a DSP is the best first step to a promising career and there
are always opportunities to advance.

It's a great job for while you are in school, and it looks great on a
resume.

You will be helping someone connect with their community
and expanding their world.



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What is DSP-U?

DSP-U is a program to train high school students to work in the I/DD field locally.

Being a DSP is a great first step into what can be a very promising and meaningful career path.

- **Portage DD is covering all of the costs of this program, and certification is provided entirely free of charge to Portage County high school students.**
- **Instruction will be provided by certified Portage DD staff who have real world experience in the I/DD field.**
- **DSP-U students successfully graduate with job readiness, and job placement assistance is provided!**



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Tell me more!

You'll learn all about

- Overview of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- History of Services for People with Developmental Disabilities
- Ethics on the Frontline
- Supporting Health and Safety
- The Direct Support Professional as Teacher
- Individual Service Planning and Self-Determination
- Providing Positive Behavior Support and Principles of Positive Intervention Culture
- Unusual Incidents, Major Unusual Incidents, and Incident Report Writing
- Fundamentals of Effective Documentation
- Providing Personal Care with Dignity

Things to know

- **Summer program 6/7/ to 6/22/23. Daily attendance is required,**
- 9am-12pm
- You'll need to have daily transportation to 2500 Brady Lake Road, Ravenna, OH 44266
- Typically, Direct Support Professionals need to be 18 and have a high school diploma or GED. There are also positions that are available with modified responsibilities for high school students (Direct Support Aid). Job placement assistance is offered for both roles.

On the Agenda

- Get your DSP basic certificate
- Tour an adult day program
- Meet and greet and on the spot interviews with employers
- Learn how to be a great DSP
- Career Planning/job placement
- Optional First Aid and CPR cert



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How do I start?

Sign up for DSP-U!

Great news, it's free! Portage DD is providing this training to Portage County high school juniors and seniors at no cost.

Program details and application are at
www.PortageDD.org/events

Class size is limited, and early applications are encouraged.

Please reach out to
teamwork@portagedd.org
with any questions!

DSP-U Summer session

June 7, 2023-June 22, 2023

9am-12pm

2500 Brady Lake Road, Ravenna, OH 44266

Spots are limited!

**Register ASAP at
www.portagedd.org/events**

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**Are you a junior or senior
thinking about the future?
Plan for tomorrow today!**

DSP-U gives you the tools you need to begin working as a
DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL,
a job where you'll make a big difference every day!

This program is brought to you FREE of CHARGE by Portage DD!

Curriculum

- Overview of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
- History of Services for People with Developmental Disabilities
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- The Direct Support Professional as Teacher
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Contact Us
teamwork@portagedd.org

**Scan QR code for program dates,
information and application**



DSP-U is brought to you, free of charge, by Portage DD