

What is PUNs? - Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services - the list of the people in Illinois with developmental disabilities who need services.

To be eligible for PUNs - The individual has to meet the State's Definition of Developmental Disability, which entails: Full Scale IQ below 70 (as documented prior to an individual's 18th birthday) or a documented related condition (as documented prior to an individual's 22nd birthday) with a deficit of three of the six daily living skill guidelines.

- 1. Related Conditions:** Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy, Brain Injury prior to the age of 18
- 2. Areas of Daily Living Skills: Must have deficit in 3 of 6**
 - a. **Self Care:** Individuals ability to complete hygiene tasks (bathing, feeding, toileting, dressing, grooming)
 - b. **Learning:** Individuals with moderate mental retardation and below will qualify for learning due to their compromised ability to learn new tasks.
 - c. **Mobility:** An individual's need for mobility assistance. If they are able to manage with assistive devices then they would not qualify for mobility as a deficit.
 - d. **Language:** How well is the individual able to make his/her needs known to others. May use assistive devices to communicate.
 - e. **Self-Direction:** How well the individual makes decisions in their own life and is able to direct their own decisions in their life.
 - f. **Capacity for Independent Living:** The individual's ability to access the community and perform cleaning tasks within their environment.

- **Indications of Developmental Delays must be present prior to age 18 in documentation**

When should families get on the list? ASAP!! The younger a child is placed on PUNs, the better! Even though there is not a pull for services for children under 18, they can still be connected with resources. Families who have been on PUNs the longest will have priority for services once the student turns 18. This list is also a way to make the state aware of the need for services in the future if children are on the list early.

Once on list - PUNs Categories - 1) Planning for Services - Birth-17 - not ready for services but on list 2) Seeking Services - 18+ - ready to discuss available services - families can initiate call to let them know their child has turned 18 but service provider should put them in seeking category when they are 17. **Parents should never say no to services, ask "what is available now?".** For instance if not looking for residential services at the time of PUNs pull, they can ask for home-based support instead.

***There is supposed to be a yearly pull from the PUNs list, but in the meantime, families must keep their information updated yearly to stay on list until their name is pulled for services.

Service Provider – Prairieland Service Coordination, Inc. (<http://psci.info/>) – Covers Peoria County, Fulton County, Henry County, Warren County, Knox County, McDonough County, Mercer County and Rock Island County.

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*****Emergency PUNs pull in the event of abuse, neglect or homeless – Contact Prairieland and say it is an emergency crisis**