



Being a Direct Support Professional Allows Flexibility and is Rewarding

What makes a good Direct Support Professional?

A person who is good at providing direct care is someone who has patience and common sense, and who feels that individuals with developmental disabilities are entitled to the same care, respect, and affection as anybody else. Good Direct Support Professionals are problem solvers. They are open-minded and flexible. And, they treat others the way they want to be treated. Acacia Care helps individuals with disabilities receive the supports they need to lead independent, full and rewarding lives.

You probably have what it takes to be a Direct Support Professional to individuals with disabilities if you...

- Have patience and common sense
- Want to do work that is personally enriching and rewarding
- Like to interact with people – and help them interact
- Are open-minded and flexible
- Are responsible and reliable
- Like to problem solve

Additional requirements include...

- Be at least 18 years of Age with a valid AZ Drivers License or Identification Card
- Have a minimum of 3 months caregiving experience.
- High School Diploma or GED
- Have a clear criminal record (employees will be required to be fingerprinted and must velar an FBI investigation pursuant to receiving a Class One Fingerprint Clearance Card from the Department of Public Safety).
- Have CPR/First Aid Certification or are willing to take the training necessary to become certified.
- Have Article 9 training or are able to complete the training required.
- Can provide at least 3 “written references”
- Email capability.
- Have a smartphone for emergency contact as well as for logging in/out.
- Reliable Transportation

Working with People with disabilities

A genuine interest in people, patience and common sense are the most important qualities that determine if you have what it takes to work with people with disabilities.

Depending on individual needs, you may perform physical tasks or provide guidance in activities of daily living, working directly with individuals in their homes and communities.

You may help with bathing, dressing, eating, toileting, and transferring in and out of a wheelchair. People providing this type of support need to be comfortable with the level of intimacy needed to provide these services. You may also help prepare meals, do household chores, and participate in leisure activities.

Some people may require a different kind of support. You may need to remind the person to take medications or bathe, help arrange social activities, assist with paperwork and make phone calls. As always, it is important to have a good understanding of what needs to be done and provide service in a respectful manner.

Referring others to become Direct Support Professionals

Many of our Direct Support Professionals learned about their jobs through family members and friends. Chances are you know people who also would like to work in this field.

You can help us find more Direct Support Professionals by referring them to us.

To refer a friend or family member, call (602) 237-5066