

## What is the legal definition of a developmental disability?

Developmental disability means a severe chronic disability of an individual which:

1. Is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental or physical impairments;
2. Is manifest before age 22;
3. Is likely to continue indefinitely;
4. Results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity that is;
  - o Self-care;
  - o Receptive and expressive language;
  - o Learning;
  - o Mobility;
  - o Self-direction; and/or
  - o Capacity for independent living or economic self-sufficiency; and
5. Reflects the need for a combination and sequence of special interdisciplinary or generic care, treatment or other services which are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated; and
6. Developmental disability includes but is not limited to severe disabilities attributable to mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, spina bifida and other neurological impairments where the above criteria are met.