



United Living Services

DODD Youth Program

Ages 10–18

A structured youth development program built around dedicated learning, life skills, fitness, enriching activities, and behavioral health partnerships — helping young people with developmental disabilities grow into confident, capable adults.

Three Pillars of Growth

Education & Planning · Employment Resources · Life Skills & Independence

Prepared by United Living Services
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Program Overview

The United Living Services DODD Youth Program is designed for young people ages 10–18 who receive, or are pursuing, Ohio DODD waiver services. Each day blends academics, movement, enrichment, and behavioral health support so participants build the skills they need now — and the foundation for independence later. Every plan is person-centered, coordinating with each family's IEP team, Service and Support Administrator (SSA), and outside providers.

Four Core Program Components

Dedicated Learning	Workouts & Physical Wellness
Small-group academic support and one-on-one tutoring aligned to each participant's IEP goals, with homework help and skill-building in reading, math, and executive functioning.	Structured fitness sessions and adaptive sports that build strength, coordination, and healthy habits in a supportive, low-pressure environment.
Enriching Activities	Behavioral Health Partnerships
Art, music, cooking, and community outings that build social connection, creativity, and real-world experience alongside peers.	Coordinated support with counselors, therapists, and families — including skills groups, coping strategies, and crisis-planning resources when needed.

1**PROGRAM PILLAR 1****Education & Planning**

Building the right academic and legal foundation for the future

**School & IEP Planning**

We help families prepare for IEP meetings, understand present levels and goals, and advocate for the accommodations and services their student needs to succeed in school.

**Transition Planning**

Starting at age 14, Ohio requires transition planning within the IEP. We help translate those goals into real activities — job shadowing, life skills practice, and connections to adult services — well before graduation.

**Guardianship Alternatives**

As participants approach adulthood, we walk families through the full range of decision-making options — from supported decision-making agreements to powers of attorney to limited or full guardianship — so families choose the least restrictive option that fits their needs.

**College & Postsecondary Resources**

We connect families to campus disability services offices, Ohio's college credit and career-technical programs, and postsecondary options designed for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

1. Ohio Dept. of Education & Workforce, "Transition Planning" —

<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Special-Education/Federal-and-State-Requirements/Secondary-Transition>

2. Ohio Dept. of Developmental Disabilities, "Guardianship" — <https://dodd.ohio.gov/your-family/all-family-resources/guardianship>

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PROGRAM PILLAR 2

Employment Resources

Preparing for meaningful, sustainable work

**Explore Career Paths**

Interest inventories, job shadowing, and hands-on exposure to different industries help each participant discover what kind of work fits their strengths and interests.

**Vocational Rehabilitation**

We coordinate with Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD) to connect eligible participants to vocational rehabilitation counseling, job training, and supported employment services.

**Workplace Skills Development**

Participants practice the everyday skills employers look for — punctuality, following instructions, teamwork, and workplace communication — in a low-pressure, supportive setting.

**Interview Techniques & Job Readiness**

Mock interviews, resume-building, and application practice give participants real reps at the skills that help them secure and keep meaningful employment.

1. Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities (OOD), Vocational Rehabilitation Services — <https://ood.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ood/services-and-support/services/vocational-rehabilitation-services>

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PROGRAM PILLAR 3

Life Skills & Independence

Confidence, communication, and independence for everyday life

**Build Confidence**

Participants take on age-appropriate responsibilities and celebrate real progress, building the self-assurance to try new things and speak up for themselves.

**Learn Daily Routines**

Hands-on practice with cooking, hygiene, money management, and using transportation builds the everyday skills that support independent living.

**Improve Communication**

Structured social skills groups and, where needed, augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) support help participants express themselves clearly and connect with peers.

**Develop Independence**

Each participant works from a person-centered goal plan, tracking progress toward the specific independence goals that matter most to them and their family.

A Sample Weekly Rhythm

Every participant's schedule is individualized, but a typical week rotates through all four core program components so learning, movement, enrichment, and behavioral health support stay connected throughout the week.

Day	Morning Focus	Afternoon Focus
Monday	Dedicated Learning — academic support, IEP-aligned goals	Life Skills — daily routines, communication practice
Tuesday	Employment Readiness — career exploration, workplace skills	Workouts — structured fitness & adaptive sports
Wednesday	Education & Planning — school, transition & postsecondary support	Enriching Activities — art, music, community outings
Thursday	Dedicated Learning — tutoring, homework help	Behavioral Health Partnership — counseling & skills groups
Friday	Life Skills & Independence — goal-setting, self-advocacy	Enriching Activities — peer mentorship, social clubs

Schedules are adjusted to each participant's IEP goals, ISP, and family preferences.

Who We Serve & How to Enroll

The DODD Youth Program is open to young people ages 10–18 who have, or are pursuing, an Ohio DODD waiver or eligibility determination through their County Board of Developmental Disabilities. We work alongside each family's Service and Support Administrator (SSA) and school team to build a program plan that complements existing IEP and ISP goals.

Getting Started



1. Reach Out

Contact United Living Services by phone or email to share your child's needs, interests, and current services.



2. Intake & Goal Planning

We'll schedule an intake conversation to learn about your child's IEP, ISP, and personal goals, and outline how the program can support them.



3. Begin the Program

Your child joins a program group aligned to their age and goals, with regular family updates on progress.

Contact United Living Services

Phone: (330) 445-4135

Email: qualitycare@unitedlivingservices.org

Statewide DODD line: 1-800-617-6733 · dodd.ohio.gov

Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities: 1-800-282-4536 · ood.ohio.gov

United Living Services | qualitycare@unitedlivingservices.org | (330) 445-4135

Parent & Guardian Enrollment Form

Please complete this form and return it to United Living Services by phone, email, or in person to begin the enrollment process. Our team will follow up to schedule your intake conversation.

1. Participant Information

PARTICIPANT FULL NAME		DATE OF BIRTH
AGE	GENDER (OPTIONAL)	GRADE
HOME ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
SCHOOL / DISTRICT		

2. Parent / Guardian Information

PARENT / GUARDIAN NAME		RELATIONSHIP TO PARTICIPANT
PHONE	EMAIL	
EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME	EMERGENCY CONTACT PHONE	

3. Current Services & Supports

COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES	DODD WAIVER TYPE (IF KNOWN)
SERVICE & SUPPORT ADMINISTRATOR (SSA) NAME	SSA PHONE OR EMAIL

4. Program Interests — Check All That Apply

- ☐ Dedicated Learning
- ☐ Enriching Activities
- ☐ Education & Planning support
- ☐ Life Skills & Independence
- ☐ Workouts & Physical Wellness
- ☐ Behavioral Health Partnerships
- ☐ Employment Resources

5. Medical, Communication & Accessibility Notes

Please note any allergies, medications, mobility needs, or communication supports (e.g. AAC device) we should know about.

NOTES

6. Consent & Signature

I certify that the information provided above is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I give United Living Services permission to contact my child's Service and Support Administrator (SSA) and school team as needed for enrollment and program planning purposes.

PARENT / GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE

PRINTED NAME

Return completed forms to United Living Services · qualitycare@unitedlivingservices.org · (330) 445-4135