



What is a Direct Support Professional (DSP)?

Defined: a person who assists an individual with a developmental disability to lead a self-directed life and contribute to the community, assists with daily living if needed, teaches life skills, and encourages attitudes and behaviors that enhance inclusion.

Job Requirements:

- 18 years of age or older
- High school diploma (or equivalency)
- Legal status to work in U.S.
- Valid driver's license
- Child abuse clearance (Act 33)
- Criminal background clearance (Act 34, FBI)
- Successful physical, tuberculin skin test, and drug screen



Job Benefits:

- Competitive pay
- Various benefits for full-time or part-time staff
- Flexible work schedules available
- Opportunity to experience fun activities and community outings

**Personal reward
of caring for
another person**

“Direct support professionals are the everyday heroes that help people with disabilities realize their dreams and enjoy the daily liberties and human rights the rest of us take for granted.”

-The National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals

Realistic Job Picture:

- Placement in a group home, work site, an individual's personal home or apartment, and/or out-and-about in the community
- Responsibilities that include:
 - Acting in a professional manner, attending all trainings or required meetings, reporting to work regularly and on time
 - Advocating for individuals with disabilities and respecting their choices, personal beliefs, and interests
 - Accurately recording information and respecting privacy of those served
- Duties that may include:
 - Assisting with personal care, including: feeding, grooming, dressing, bathing, toileting, lifting, and moving
 - Helping an individual cope with day-to-day activities
 - Performing household chores, such as laundry
 - Encouraging development of life skills, i.e., money management, food preparation, personal hygiene, or job readiness
 - Transporting individuals by driving agency vans and operating wheelchair lifts
 - Administering medications and following physician's orders
 - Responding to emergency situations that could arise

For more info, visit www.ehca.org.