Partners in Policymaking

Virginia Board for People with Disabilities

Make a Difference in Your Community. Become a Partner in Policymaking.

More than 400 Partners in Policymaking (PIP) alumni in Virginia and thousands of PIP program alumni across the country have learned how to make a difference every day for themselves, their families, and communities.

Individuals participating in PIP attend advocacy training, resource development, and skill building workshops led by state and national experts. Topics covered include the history of the disability rights movement, self-advocacy, independent living, employment, building inclusive communities, natural supports, legislative advocacy, assistive technology, communication, team building, and much more.

You can become involved and make a difference. Apply today!

PiP Partners in Policymaking

Become an Effective Advocate

Highly Motivated Virginians Encouraged to Apply

Individuals who want to develop or strengthen their advocacy and leadership skills are encouraged to apply. Partners are chosen through a competitive application process administered statewide. If accepted, attendance is required in seven training sessions (September 2023-April 2024). There are no costs to participate in the program.

Eligibility

People with developmental disabilities (DD) and/or parents of young children with DD are eligible to apply for PIP.

Benefits

- Get connected, speak up, educate and communicate on inclusion, quality of education, accessible housing, and supported employment for people with DD.
- Build positive relationships with families, schools, employers, elected officials.
- Learn how to impact local, state, and national policies through advocacy and awareness.
- Improve the lives of people with DD in your local community and in Virginia.
- Understand the strategies used to support people with DD.

COVID-19 Info

Monthly PIP sessions typically begin Fridays at 1 p.m. and conclude Saturdays at 3 p.m. For your safety, and depending on the status of any vaccines, PIP 2023-24 may include:

- Virtual Sessions
- In-person sessions if deemed safe and appropriate

Click Here to Apply

For information and details on how to apply, visit www.vbpd.virginia.gov/policymaking.htm

Applications are due by 5 p.m. March 17, 2023.

For more information or questions, please email training@vbpd.virginia.gov.