



Massachusetts Inclusive
Postsecondary Education

MAIPSE

Department of Developmental Services Example



Ada is a woman with intellectual disability. She finished high school with a certificate of completion. She enjoyed being a part of photography club in high school, and wonders what she can do to become a photographer.

She heard a local college has a great inclusive education program to support her taking photography courses, and she doesn't need to have a high school diploma to apply.



Ada's family helped her submit the eligibility application for the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and she was found eligible for services and matched with a support broker. Ada's family also helped her apply to the inclusive program and she was approved to attend.



Now, Ada will work with her support broker to apply for funding through the Participant Directed Program. The funding will cover the cost of the inclusive education program, but Ada and her family will have to cover other expenses, like university fees or books.

The program staff at the college will support Ada to attend her classes, advocate for any accommodations she may need, provide internship opportunities, and work on social workplace skills with Ada so she is prepared to go to work.