

REFERRALS

Referrals are accepted from clients and families (or those acting on their behalf). Referrals may be submitted in one of three ways: **electronically, mail or fax:**

1. To submit a referral using our Electronic Referral Form, please visit our website at www.sdrc.ca.
2. To obtain a paper copy of the Referral Form, contact the main office of SDRC at 519-741-1121.
3. You can also visit our website to download a PDF copy of the form.

Upon receipt of a completed referral form and supporting documentation verifying eligibility for services, you will receive a Referral Confirmation email within 2 to 4 weeks, followed by contact from an Intake worker to schedule an initial Intake Appointment. The wait for an appointment varies depending on referral volumes and may take up to 6 months.

For referrals for adults 18 years and older, eligibility for developmental services must first be determined by Developmental Services Ontario. You can contact them through their Toll Free number: 1-888-941-1121.

Once eligibility is determined a referral for services will be forwarded to SDRC on your behalf.

INQUIRIES

Please direct inquiries, referrals, and requests for services to:



205 - 1120 Victoria St. N.
Kitchener, Ontario N2B 3T2

Phone: 519-741-1121
Fax: 519-743-4730

Or email us at:
sdrc@sunbeamcommunity.ca

Website: www.sdrc.ca

Satellite Offices

Elmira:	118 Barnswallow Dr. Elmira, ON N3B 2Y9
Hanson:	65 Hanson Ave. Kitchener, ON N2C 2H6
Cambridge:	757 King St. E. Cambridge, ON N3H 3N8



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Eligibility For Services

A Guide to the Determination of Eligibility for Developmental Services in Waterloo Region



WHO WE ARE

Sunbeam Developmental Resource Centre (SDRC) serves as the single point of access for clinical services, service coordination, children's residential services, children's respite, and service resolution.

These services are available to children and adults in Waterloo Region who have an intellectual disability and/or an autism spectrum disorder.

WHAT IS A DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY

Individuals receiving support must have a formal diagnosis of an intellectual disability or an autism spectrum disorder. The presence of other mental health issues or physical disabilities does not disqualify someone for developmental services.

SDRC uses the clinical definitions provided in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition (DSM-5) in evaluating eligibility.

LANGUAGE

The term "developmental disability" is used today for many reasons. Common use of the term "mental retardation" was often seen as stigmatizing and degrading to individuals with intellectual disabilities.

While we respect and support the use of inclusive and valuing language, ambiguity around the term "developmental disability" has made clarification of diagnosis important for access to service.



HOW ELIGIBILITY FOR SERVICES IS DETERMINED

Eligibility and access to developmental services for children shall be based on diagnostic information covering intellectual as well as adaptive functioning.

The following diagnoses will be accepted:

1. Intellectual disability as defined by the DSM-5;
2. Autism spectrum disorder, with or without an intellectual disability, as defined by the DSM-5.

In determining eligibility for an intellectual disability and/or an autism spectrum disorder, SDRC requires evidence of a diagnosis as provided within a psychological assessment or equivalent medical documentation. These assessments must include use of commonly accepted instruments/tools for determining diagnoses.

The findings of the assessment will be used to determine eligibility for services. If a child is deemed ineligible an appeal can be made to the Director of SDRC.

Eligibility for services for adults with an intellectual disability and or an autism spectrum disorder will need to be determined by Developmental Services Ontario (DSO).