



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

Department of Health and Social Services

Senior and Disabilities Services
Governor's Council on Disabilities & Special
Education
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The Alaska Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education is Recruiting for New Members

Mission

The mission of the Governor's Council is "creating change that improves the lives of Alaskans with disabilities." If you think you would like to be part of our mission and would like to volunteer your time and experiences in furthering the lives of Alaskans with disabilities, then please consider turning in an application to Governor Bill Walker to become a member!

What We Do

The Council provides a constructive process that connects the public with policymakers, to ensure the thoughtful development of an efficient and seamless service delivery system that meets the needs of individuals with disabilities across the life span. The Council is composed of 26 members appointed by the Governor. The Council serves a variety of federal and state roles, combining the expertise and experience of many stakeholders throughout the state into one unique Council.

State Council on Developmental Disabilities

Under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, the Council serves as the State Council on Developmental Disabilities. In Alaska, the Council is also responsible for interdepartmental planning and coordination of services to persons with disabilities. The Council delegates the day-to-day work to the Council's Developmental Disabilities Committee (DD).

Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities

Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Council serves as the Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities which advises and assists Alaska's statewide Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program. The day-to-day functions of the ICC are delegated to the Council's Early Intervention Committee (EIC).

Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)

Also under the IDEA, the Council serves as Alaska's Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP), which advises and assists Alaska's statewide Special Education program administered through the Department of Education & Early Development. The day-to-day functions of the SEAP are delegated to the Council's Education Committee (ED).

Governing Body of the Special Education Service Agency (SESA)

Members of the Council act as the governing board for the Special Education Services Agency, which supports the effective education of students with low incidence disabilities throughout Alaska. For more information you can visit their website at: <http://www.sesa.org>

About the Appointment Process

Council member's appointments are made on a revolving basis by an application process that sometimes can take several months to a year. Information on current or upcoming vacancies can be obtained by contacting us directly toll free at: 1 (888) 269-8990, or in Anchorage at: 907-269-8990, or by visiting the Governor's website on [Boards and Commissions](#).

The Council expects vacancies in the following areas as of July 1, 2015, although persons with other experiences are encouraged to apply:

- 1) "Self-Advocates," or persons who experience an intellectual and developmental disability themselves, sometimes referred to as "primary consumers," who acquired their IDD before the age of 22;
- 2) Parents or family members of persons who experience an intellectual and developmental disability, sometimes referred to as "secondary consumers;" and
- 3) Persons interested in serving the dual role of Council member and board member of SESA.

Here are a few things to note when applying to become a Council member through the Governor's website:

- 1) All decisions on appointments are made by the Governor through input from his staff. Your full application, letters of reference, a resume, any support letters, or other correspondence related to your application should be directed to Governor Bill Walker.
- 2) If appointed by the Governor, you will fill a designated term that can last up to three years, with multiple reappointments possible, if the Governor so chooses.
- 3) The Council does most of its day-to-day work via monthly committee teleconferences that meet usually for 1 ½ - 2 hours each. Each Council member is required to join at least one, but preferably multiple, committee(s) that fit your experience and interests. This is how we do our work, so your input is important and valued. The time commitment for each Council member is approximately 15-20 hours per month.
- 4) The full Council membership also meets three times per year in person; once in Juneau, and two times usually in Anchorage. These meetings last for 2-3 days each. If travel is required, we pay for these expenses and state per diem, as appropriate. If you

experience a disability whereby you need attendant support, sign language interpreters, caregiver support at home while you are on official state business, or any other disability accommodation, we will also pay for any of those expenses. We do not pay a stipend or for wages lost from work because of your voluntary participation on the Council.

To Apply:

To find out more about Governor-appointed positions with the Council, visit the Boards & Commissions section of the Governor's site. On this site you will find fact sheets, current roster, application, and a current vacancy list.

1. Go to <http://gov.alaska.gov/Walker/services/boards-commissions/apply-info.html>
2. If you wish to apply **online**, click "[Apply Online](#)." Fill out this application form completely; be sure to select "Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education" in the dropdown menu and don't forget to upload your resume toward the bottom of the page!
3. If you wish to apply via **hard copy**, please complete [this form](#). At the top of the first page, for the first question, please write "Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education, Council member seat" in the blank space provided. On page 3, be sure to also place a check mark next to the box for "Disabilities & Special Education," then send the completed form, your cover letter, and resume in one of the following ways:

- Via **email**: boards@alaska.gov
- Via **fax**: 907-465-3532
- Via **mail**: State of Alaska
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

For questions about the Council, please contact:

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OR

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