Alabama PIP in Policymaking Advisory Council (PIPAC)

Information for Applicants

The Alabama Developmental Disabilities Network (ADDN) is establishing an advisory council to support its new leadership training program, Alabama Partners in Policymaking (PIP). The advisory council will be called the Alabama Partners in Policymaking Advisory Council (PIPAC).

What is Alabama Partners in Policymaking (PIP)?
PIP is a leadership training program designed for individuals with developmental disabilities (DD) and family members. PIP believes that the most significant and lasting public policy decisions came from the efforts of those most affected by them. Upon completion of PIP, participants will have developed the knowledge and skills needed to be advocates for opportunities and supports that promote self-determination, independence, and integration in all aspects of community life for themselves and others. PIP graduates will be prepared to work along with policymakers and will be empowered to be advocates for change.

What are the duties of the Partners in Policymaking Advisory Council (PIPAC)?
The 2021-22 PIPAC will advise the ADDN on the development, content, and evaluation of PIP. Among the specific duties of the 2021-22 PIPAC are the following:
- Advising the ADDN on the development of the selection criteria of the PIP participants
- Reviewing PIP applications and advising the ADDN in the selection of PIP participants
- Assisting the ADDN in PIP recruitment outreach opportunities
- Providing input on the PIP curriculum and training structures
- Reviewing program outcomes

How will the PIPAC be set up?
The 2021-22 PIPAC will consist of not more than twelve volunteer members – six at large members recruited through the application process and six appointed members representing the advisory councils of the ADDN’s member organizations (two members each from the ACDD, ADAP and the UCEDD). The PIPAC will elect a chairperson who will be the liaison to the PIP Project Manager and the ADDN.

How often will the PIPAC meet?
The 2021-22 PIPAC will meet virtually in 2–3-hour work sessions twice a month in July, August, and September 2021. Afterwards, while PIP is ongoing, the PIPAC will meet (virtually) up to four times for one-hour sessions.

Who is eligible to be on the PIPAC?
Eligible PIPAC applicants are persons with DD and family members of persons with DD. The PIPAC is committed to building a diverse group of members, reflecting the needs, geography, and cultural and ethnic backgrounds of Alabama’s communities. Members will be provided needed supports and accommodations to fully participate on the PIPAC. The ADDN is seeking individuals with experience in advocating for oneself and/or for policy change at the federal, state, or local level; familiarity with public and private systems that serve Alabamians with DD; experience in sharing one’s lived experiences; knowledge of self-advocacy strategies and the
self-advocacy movement; knowledge of training best practices; and interest and/or experience in team building.

How will PIPAC members be selected?
Members will be selected by the ADDN. Application materials will be reviewed using a rubric that will take into consideration factors such as: experiences, disability, geography, cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

How will the PIPAC be structured after its first year?
During the first year of PIP in 2021-22, the ADDN, in consultation with the PIPAC, will consider how to structure the PIPAC (including its membership, terms of office, and duties) going forward.

How can I apply to be on the PIPAC?
Click here to access the online application. Or, scan this QR code:

What is the application deadline?
PIPAC applications will be accepted through midnight on Tuesday, June 15, 2021.

If I serve on the PIPAC, can I be a member of the PIP program?
PIPAC members will not be eligible to be part of the PIP program as participants.

I don’t want to serve on the PIPAC, I want to be a member of the first PIP class. How do I apply?
Applications to be a member of the first PIP class will be coming out mid-summer 2021.

Where can I get more information or get help filling out the PIPAC application?
Contact:
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