ADAP’s Protection & Advocacy for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities (PADD) program provides legal advocacy services to protect and promote the civil rights of Alabamians with developmental disabilities (DD). ADAP’s PADD Advisory Council informs ADAP regarding the needs of these individuals and provides oversight and feedback to us regarding our PADD program priorities. The PADD Advisory Council is comprised of community members, the majority of whom are self-advocates with DD or their immediate family members. The PADD Advisory Council is governed by these operating procedures. The Council meets at least three times a year in various locations across the state. Members are reimbursed for travel expenses to all meetings.

In accordance with federal statutes and regulations, ADAP has established Advisory Councils for its PADD and PAIMI programs.

1. Advisory Councils will have twelve members each.

2. Members are appointed by ADAP’s Director with input from stakeholders.

3. Members’ terms run on calendar years.

4. Members will serve staggered terms.

5. A member may serve a maximum of two successive two-year terms. After the first two-year term on a Council, ADAP’s Director may reappoint a member for a second two-year term.

6. After serving two successive two-year terms on any Council, an individual must wait two years before being appointed by ADAP’s Director to any Council.

7. Membership will include at least 60% persons with disabilities and/or family members.

8. Each Council will have at least three meetings each year. Meetings may be held jointly during the year.

9. Council members who have two or more unexcused absences per year may be replaced by ADAP’s Director.

10. Council members who are associated by virtue of employment or contract with an organization or agency that is a named defendant in ADAP litigation may be removed by ADAP’s Director in order to avoid a conflict of interest.

11. Council members will be reimbursed for any travel expenses pursuant to University of Alabama travel guidelines and procedures.

12. Council members are required to sign a confidentiality form.