

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL MICROCREDENTIAL



The Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), in partnership with the National Alliance for Direct Support Professionals (NADSP) and the State University of New York (SUNY), are providing a special grant program that provides full funding for tuition, fees, books, course materials, and NADSP credentialing. The curriculum is hands-on and highly interactive.

Successful completion of the program will give the student:

- A SUNY microcredential in a human services field, with up to 13 accredited and transferable academic credits that can be applied to future certificates and degrees at a number of institutions.
- A nationally-recognized certification by NADSP for DSP-I and/or DSP-II.
- A \$750 incentive for eligible students upon successful completion of a microcredential (eligible students may receive the incentive for every level of microcredential, DSP-I and DSP-II).
- On-site academic support where you can earn while you learn. For those currently not employed as a Direct Support Professional, work-based learning opportunities will be available through internship assignments.

DSP-I Microcredential Learning Outcomes:

- Relate the codes of ethics defined by NADSP and OPWDD to the role of the DSP.
- Identify the support services that assist people in leading self-directed lives.
- Identify and promote the needed cognitive and behavioral skills of people served to foster lifetime health, fitness and wellness in line with individual's personal needs.
- Determine when and how to report potential or actual abuse, neglect, exploitation, or harm to people served.
- Apply legal requirements concerning the confidentiality and privacy of client information to specific work situations.
- Integrate classroom learning with field experience in order to meet agency and individual expectations.

DSP-II Microcredential Learning Outcomes:

- Highlight the important characteristics of observation, assessment, documentation, and evaluation.
- Establish ethical tenets rooted in national best practices.
- Demonstrate familiarity with disability services systems.
- Apply legal requirements concerning the confidentiality and privacy of client information to work situations.
- Demonstrate coherent college-level oral communication that informs, persuades, or otherwise engages an audience.
- Evaluate communication for substance, bias, and intended effect.
- Demonstrate an understanding of how to apply principles of a professional Code of Ethics in working in Human Services.
- Demonstrate the ability to listen, paraphrase and problem solve.

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