



BACKGROUND

Help us strengthen the field of direct support care. ACL is looking for inventive solutions to advance the direct support professional (DSP) workforce and to improve the quality of home- and community-based services (HCBS) for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD). Our goal is to encourage the development of innovative business models that will help to stabilize the DSP labor market.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Due to the lack of stability of the workforce, many individuals are unable to obtain all the services they need, limiting true inclusion in society and reducing quality of life. There are several concerns related to attracting and retaining DSPs, including the rising need for services creating competition for workers; shifts in the types of services needed; low wages; lack of benefits; and lack of training and promotion opportunities.

ACT NOW

ACL is seeking innovative business models to stabilize and expand the size and capability of the DSP workforce. The competition will include three phases, with cash prizes awarded in each phase. All winners will receive mentorship from experts in the field and winners' concepts will be featured in challenge materials.

CHALLENGE PHASES

ROUND 1

Proposal of Innovative Models:
Up to five (5) awards for a total of

\$100,000

ROUND 2

Small Scale Testing of Models:
Up to three (3) awards for a total of

\$90,000

ROUND 3

Promise of Model Sustainability:
One (1) award of

\$120,000

Submit your proposal today!

Send your submissions to DSPprizechallenge@acl.hhs.gov by **February 22, 2021**, at 11:59 PM EST.