

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS about the Nevada Partners in Policymaking™ program.

Who is eligible to participate in this program?

This program is designed for persons with disabilities and parents/guardians of young children with disabilities.

What is the time commitment required of those who are chosen to participate in this program? Participants are required to attend eight weekend sessions (February - September). The sessions are held on Friday and Saturday. Breaks and lunches are included in each weekend session.

Where are the weekend sessions held? All sessions will be held in Reno except for the June session on State Legislation (Carson City).

Is there a fee to attend this eight-month training? There is no fee to attend. The cost for those selected to participate is covered in part by monies from the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities and Nevada Center for Excellence on Disabilities.

Do I have to pay for my overnight accommodations and travel expenses?

Overnight accommodations are provided for those who drive a distance to attend. You will be paired with another class member in a double occupancy room. Mileage reimbursement is also available.

Is there financial assistance available to help pay for respite/child care or personal care attendants? The Partners program does not provide on-site services, but a reimbursement allowance is provided for those needing assistance.

How are class participants selected? When will I be notified if chosen to be part of the Class of 2010? A review committee will select participants based on several criteria. Class size is limited. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application by December 31, 2009.

Is there work to be done between monthly sessions? After each session a homework assignment, that builds on and supports the topics addressed, is completed by each class member and turned in at the following session.

Who does the training? Trainers are local and national subject matter experts or practitioners.

What are the topics that will be covered during the eight sessions? A sampling of topics to be addressed through a variety of informative and interactive sessions includes:

- ✓ The history of the parent, self-advocacy, and independent living movements
- ✓ School and community inclusion
- ✓ The importance of whole life planning
- ✓ Critical federal/state policies and issues facing people with disabilities
- ✓ Skills for providing public testimony and changing public policy
- ✓ Assistive Technology
- ✓ Understanding difficult behaviors
- ✓ Working with the Media
- ✓ Parliamentary Procedures