

The Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council) encourages and supports advocacy groups to visit the Iowa Capitol during the Iowa Legislative Session. The goals of the visit are to learn about the legislative process, build relationships with lawmakers, and educate them on issues that affect Iowans with disabilities. Grant funds can cover travel expenses. The DD Council will also provide advocacy training and guidance at the Capitol. Activities must be non-partisan and support individuals with disabilities and their families.

AVAILABLE GRANTS

The DD Council will provide six (6) Capitol Advocacy Days grants up to \$500 during the legislative session.

Grants are available on a first come basis. If grant funds run out, groups may still receive training and guidance at the Capitol as requested.

Funds can be used for travel expenses. Lunch is provided to grantees during the training portion of the day and will not need to be reimbursed.

PLAN FOR YOUR CAPITOL DAY

- Plan to arrive at the DD Council office for the advocacy training no later than 9:30 AM.
- Attendees will need their own transportation to the Iowa Capitol.
- Plan to stay until late afternoon.
- It may seem like a long day but it's worth it!

GRANT REQUIREMENTS

- Your group must include a majority of people with a disability and/or family members (20 maximum).
- Advocate for disability-related policy change.
- Schedule a Capitol Advocacy Day on a Tuesday or Wednesday in January, February, or March.
- Participate in an advocacy training provided by the DD Council before going to the capitol.
- Schedule meetings with your legislators (DD Council can assist).
- Complete an evaluation of your event within two weeks after your visit.

WHILE AT THE CAPITOL YOU MAY ALSO WANT TO:

- Ask your legislator to introduce your group to the House or Senate Chamber. (DD Council can assist)
- Watch floor debate in the House or Senate Chamber
- Attend a committee meeting.
- Meet with other state agencies.

QUESTIONS

If you have questions about the application, a member of our team would be happy to assist. We are here to help make your day a success!

Iowa DD Council

contactus@iowaddcouncil.org

(800) 452-1936

iowaddcouncil.org

GRANT REQUEST

The DD Council will provide six (6) Capitol Days grants up to \$500 during the legislative session. Funds can be used for travel expenses. Attendees or groups will be reimbursed for their expenses after their event. The Iowa DD Council will provide lunch.

ORGANIZATION/GROUP INFORMATION

Group Leader: _____

Name of Group/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Phone number where you can be reached when traveling or at the capitol: _____

Tell us about your group

List the issue(s) your group is interested in discussing with your legislators

Who might attend? List each person's name and town they live in.

Estimated number of people with a disability who will be attending: _____

Estimated number of family members who will be attending: _____

Estimated number of support/service providers who will be attending: _____

ORGANIZATION/GROUP INFORMATION (Continued)

Accommodations needed to participate, such as an interpreter:

If your organization has a contracted lobbyist, list their name: _____

Will you have handouts to distribute: _____

If no, would you like the DD Council to help develop: _____

Date you would like to visit the capitol: _____

Backup date that works for your group: _____

Amount requested from the DD Council: _____

How will you use the funding?

Applications will be reviewed while funding is available .

Note: it may take up to 30 days to be reimbursed.

To apply for a DD Council Capitol Advocacy Days grant, submit completed grant application to:

EMAIL TO:

contactus@iowaddcouncil.org

MAIL TO:

Iowa DD Council
700 2nd Ave Suite 101
Des Moines, IA 50309