



**DIRECT SUPPORT**  
PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

# LOOKING TO UPSKILL YOUR WORKFORCE?

## WHAT IS A DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL (DSP)?

A Direct Support Professional (DSP) is someone who helps people with intellectual or developmental disabilities. DSPs work closely with these individuals to help them reach their full potential, learn new skills, and be a part of their communities.

## WHAT IS DSP TRAINING?

The DSP training offered by the Tennessee Board of Regents is an online program that you can complete at your own pace. This training helps you learn important skills needed to be a DSP and encourages you to apply what you learn in your job. There are no tests, and it includes a series of videos instead of lectures or papers.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

To join the course, you'll need to fill out an application. Once you're approved, you'll get information on how to access the course.

The DSP Certificate Course is made up of 12 skill courses. In each course, you will read content, watch videos, and do activities. At the end of each course, you will take a final assessment. Once you pass the Final Assessment for each course you will receive a digital badge for that course. You will have access to the courses one at a time, each time you successfully complete a course the next course will open for you, and you can keep moving through the training. The full course covers twelve skill areas. When you finish all of them, you'll receive a certificate. Additionally, each of the 12 skill courses will have two essay questions that you will be able to use, along with your certificate of complete to self-report to for national certification with NADSP.

## TIME COMMITMENT

The course is designed to be completed in 12 weeks. You should plan to spend about 5 hours each week on the course.

## TUITION & INCENTIVES

Please note that not everyone who applies for the stipend will be approved for the stipend. Applicants who pass the initial screening are not guaranteed approval, as final scholarship decisions are based on additional criteria and availability.

The initial screening of applications is based on the following factors:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Have a high school diploma or GED
- Be a U.S. citizen or hold a visa permitting permanent residence
- Be employed as a Consumer-Directed Worker, Direct Support Professional, Health Support Worker or Paid Caregiver.

If you qualify, you can take the course for free and may even receive up to \$3,000 after completing it.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

As you progress, you'll earn digital badges. When you finish the course, you'll receive a certificate of completion.

Those who complete the course can also apply for Level I, Level II or Level III National Alliance for Direct Support Professional certification.



**APPLY  
NOW!**

**FOR MORE  
INFORMATION**

[DSPTRAINING@TBR.ORG](mailto:DSPTRAINING@TBR.ORG)

615-365-1512