



BASIC CERTIFICATE

The Basic Certificate is a series of Modules that provides fundamental knowledge of the skills and abilities required to become a Direct Support Professional (DSP). This series includes thirty (30) hours of instruction and ten (10) Modules of the Certificate of Initial Proficiency (CIP).

Module 101: Overview of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities

This Module begins with an overview of four general types of disabilities and their most common causes. Next, the Module reviews five specific kinds of I/DD, including intellectual disabilities, cerebral palsy, autism spectrum disorders, Down syndrome, and epilepsy. Finally, the Module instructs learners in the basics of Medicaid Waiver Funding for individuals with I/DD.

Module 102: History of Services for Individuals with Disabilities

This Module reviews the trends in care for individuals with disabilities, from the mid-1800s to the present, as an examination of the persistent issues surrounding the rights, roles, and status of this segment of society. Learners review the growth of institutional care and social attitudes including those favoring segregation, involuntary sterilization, and euthanasia. The Module also discusses more recent developments in national policy and social movements affecting individuals with disabilities, such as social security amendments, the parents' movement, and the disability rights movement.

Module 103: Ethics on the Frontline

This Module moves in closer on NADSP's *Code of Ethics*, and focuses on how to use the *Code's* nine principles for resolving decisions and dilemmas ethically. Scenarios and small group activities help learners apply the *Code* to realistic work situations.

Module 104: Supporting Health & Safety

This Module prepares learners to support individuals in managing their own health and safety. It involves a discussion of best practices for preparing and

administering medication, and recognizing and responding to medication side effects, as well as the management and tracking of health care delivery, health status, and health-related assessments. Learners also investigate their own roles and responsibilities in teaching and encouraging healthy daily diets.

Module 106: The Direct Support Professional as Teacher

This Module outlines and discusses the teaching skills essential for the work of an effective and competent DSP. Learners investigate concepts related to functions of the intellect and of “multiple intelligences,” with a strong focus on understanding and applying their own preferred learning styles and the learning styles of others. Learners also review the use of multi-sensory instruction to help individuals process information and practice new skills.

Module 109: Individual Service Planning & Self-Determination

This Module focuses on the components of an Individual Service Plan (ISP), so that learners understand and apply the components in their support of individuals with I/DD. Learners work together in activities designed to develop their skills in gaining information about individuals’ strengths, preferences, and dreams. Learners discuss the elements, goals, and processes of the ISP and the importance of facilitating natural partnerships in the design of supports: these better assist individuals in achieving greater levels of power and control in their lives.

Module 113: Providing Behavioral Supports & Principles of Positive Intervention Culture

This Module discusses challenging behaviors and their analysis, with an emphasis on techniques and tools for understanding the functions or meanings driving those behaviors (for challenging behaviors to persist over time, they must be meeting some need). Learners discuss the components of successful behavior support techniques, and review the importance of team processes – and that helping an individual with challenging behaviors is dependent on the existence of positive and supportive relationships.

Module 114: Unusual Incidents, Major Unusual Incidents & Incident Report Writing

This Module guides learners to a thorough understanding of the rules and definitions of Unusual Incidents (UIs) and Major Unusual Incidents (MUIs), and assists them in understanding the determination of what needs to be documented in an UI or MUI circumstance. Learners work together to identify factors which can negatively impact the completeness and accuracy of documentation, including those affecting memory and recall, and focus on ways to reduce those factors. Module activities and short video scenarios assist in these lessons.

Module 115: Fundamentals of Effective Documentation

The focus of this Module is best practices in professional documentation. Learners identify types of documentation required on the job and the purpose of each type. The Module also reviews ten guidelines that assure documentation adheres to legal, ethical, and programmatic standards and rules.

Module 116: Providing Personal Care with Dignity

This Module describes and explains the DSP's role in meeting the daily personal care needs of the supported individual, including oral hygiene, bathing, dressing, shaving, and lifting and transferring an individual safely. The Module also identifies numerous assistive devices that help make these processes safer, more thorough, and more efficient; some devices also enhance the supported individual's control and independence.

For more information, contact inquiries@oadsp.org.