

Law for Supporting Independence of Persons with disabilities (2005)

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1. Problems of old system

(1) Services for community according to the type of disability

Welfare services used to be provided according to the type of disability i.e. physical, intellectual or mental disability. It had been pointed out that the system of facilities and programs was complicated to understand and it was difficult to use these services.

(2) Difference of levels of services of municipal governments

There was a difference between cities, towns and villages at the level of services for persons.

(3) Increasing the budget of services for PWDs.

Income-based system has made it difficult for municipal governments to maintain the budget for services for PWDs.

(4) PWDs can not work.

Many PWDs do not have jobs although they want to work.

2. Purpose of the Law for Supporting Persons with Developmental Disabilities

The Law for Supporting Persons with Developmental Disabilities came into effect in April 2005 to resolve the problems. The law has 5 purposes.

(1) Any kind of PWDs can utilize any kinds of services

In order to be able persons with disabilities to use the necessary services regardless of the type of their disabilities i.e. physical, intellectual or mental, the service system was unified and the facilities and programs were accordingly rearranged.

(2) Municipal government unify the welfare services for PWDs

(3) appropriate burden of PWDs

Service-based system has been introduced principally with a expense reduction system.

(4) Support PWDs to get Job

(5) Transparency of service delivery system

3. Services

(1) Nationally common services

1) Supply System of Independent Living Support

Combination of daytime activity programs and nighttime living support programs. Services provided in institutions and facilities are divided into 'day services (daytime activity programs)' and 'nighttime services (living support programs)' and users can select and combine these services. When using these programs, an individual support plan for each user is formulated to provide appropriate services in accordance with their purpose of use. For example, a person in a nursing home for persons with physical disabilities who needs constant care can select 'life care' program from daytime activity programs and 'support for living in a facility' from nighttime living support programs. When persons with disabilities move to live in a community, they can continue to use the 'life care' program during the day..

< Current Services >

< New services >

Services at home	Home help (physical, intellectual, children, mental)
	Day service (physical, intellectual, children, mental)
	Short-stay (physical, intellectual, children, mental)
	Group homes (intellectual, mental)

Services at facilities	Facilities for children with severe physical and intellectual disabilities
	Nursing homes (physical)
	Rehabilitation facilities (physical, intellectual)
	Sheltered workshops (physical, intellectual, mental)
	Welfare factories (physical, intellectual, mental)
	Dormitories for workers (intellectual)
	Welfare homes (physical, intellectual, mental)
Training facilities for daily living (mental)	



Home help (Personal care at home)	Provide support at home in bathing, toileting, eating etc.	Care Benefit
Visiting care for persons with severe disabilities	Provide comprehensive assistance to persons with severe physical disorders who need constant support in bathing, toileting and eating at home and also in moving when they go out, etc	
Activity support	Provide necessary support to avoid dangers when persons with a limited ability to judge by themselves go out and engage in some activities	
Guide help support	Going out with a person with profound visually impairment and provide necessary information and accommodation. for mobilization	
Comprehensive support for persons with severe disabilities etc	Provide several services comprehensively such as 'home help (personal care at home) to persons in great need of care	
Short-stay	Provide support in bathing, toileting, eating for a short period including during the night in case a carer at home is ill, etc.	
Medical and nursing care	Provide persons, who need medical treatment and constant care, with functional trainings, necessary control for their recuperation, nursing, care, and support in daily living activities at medical institutions	
Care in Daily Life	Provide support to persons, who need constant care, in bathing, toileting, eating during the day and also provide opportunities for creative activities and productive activities	Training Benefit
Nighttime care at support facilities for persons with disabilities (support for living in a facility)	Provide support to persons admitted to facilities in bathing, toileting, eating etc during the night and at weekends	
Care homes	Provide support at collective homes in bathing, toileting, eating, etc. during the night and at weekends	
Training for independent living	Provide necessary trainings for a certain period to improve physical functions and social skills so that independent living and social life can be lead	
Assistance for employment	Provide persons who wish to work in a private company with necessary trainings for a certain period to improve their knowledge and skills necessary for employment	
Assistance for continued employment (type A = in the form of employment, type B = not employed)	Provide a workplace and necessary trainings to improve the knowledge and skills to those who are difficult to work in private companies	
Group homes	Provide consultation and support in daily living at collective homes during the night and at weekends	
Mobility support	Provide mobility support so that persons with disabilities can go out without difficulties	Community Life Support Programs
Community activity support center	Provides opportunities for creative activities and productive activities as well as interaction with society	
Welfare homes	Provide rooms to those who need housing for low price and also necessary support in daily life	

< Places for daytime activities >

Select one or more programs from the below.

Medical and nursing care *

Life care

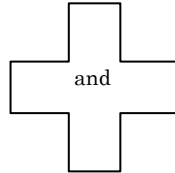
Training for independent living
(function/daily living)

Assistance for employment

Assistance for continued
employment (type A = in the form of
employment, type B = not employed)

Community activity support center
(Community life support programs)

* Medical and nursing care is provided
to hospitalized patients in medical
institutions.



< Living place >

Support for living in a facility
for persons with disabilities

or

Living support
(Care home, group home, and
welfare home)

2) Independent Living Support Medical Care

Costs of medical treatments such as operation of children/persons with physical disabilities to reduce or recover from disabilities as well as medical costs of outpatients with psychiatric disabilities are subsidized.

3) Adaptive Equipment Allowance

Costs to purchase adaptive equipment to compensate or substitute the lost body parts or damaged body functions of children/persons with physical disabilities are subsidized. (prosthesis, orthosis, wheelchair, glasses, white cane for the blind, hearing aid, etc)

(2)Community Life Support Program

(1) Programs at Municipal Level

Programs	Contents
Consultation support program	Consultation for persons with disabilities, their guardians and carers, provision of necessary information and support to protect rights of persons with disabilities, and establishment of Independent Living Support Council to build a consultation support system and network in a community
Communication support program	Dispatch of sign language interpreters, note takers, Braille translators, etc. in order to intermedate the communication with persons who have difficulty in communicating due to hearing, speech, voice, visual impairments
Program to supply equipment for daily living	Provision or rental of devices necessary in a daily life to support independent living of persons with severe disabilities
Mobility support program	Provision of support to persons who have difficulty in mobility when they go out
Community activity support center	Provision of opportunities for creative activities and productive activities to persons with disabilities in the community and promotion of their interaction with society
Other programs	Programs necessary for independent daily living or social life, according to the judgment of municipal government Examples: welfare home program, visiting bathing service program, day time temporal support service, social participation promotion program, etc.

(3)Programs at Prefectural Level

Programs	Contents
Highly professional consultation support program	Consultation and provision of necessary information regarding disabilities which requires highly professional knowledge such as developmental disorders, higher brain dysfunction, etc.
Wide-area support program	Programs which require supports beyond the scope of municipalities, e.g. program to promote and support persons with mental disabilities in leaving hospital
Other programs (including training program)	Programs necessary for independent daily living or social life, according to the judgment of prefectural government Examples: welfare home program, information support program, comprehensive promotion program of IT for persons with disability, social participation promotion program, etc. Training programs etc targeted for service providers and instructors