

Rights of Persons with Developmental Disabilities
SECTION 5123.62 O.R.C. BILL OF RIGHTS

What are rights?

RIGHTS are the rules that help make everyone equal. You have some rights when you are born. These are called human rights because every person has them. You also have legal rights, which are backed by the law. It is important to know your rights so that if people try to take them away you can stop them.

What are responsibilities?

RESPONSIBILITIES are the things that are our duty to do. Responsible people know what their rights are and respect the rights of others. Being responsible means you care about other people's rights and are accountable.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES GO HAND IN HAND



- A. Children have the right to be treated nicely at all times and as an individual. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to treat children with dignity and respect at all times and as an individual.
- B. Children have the right to a safe, clean home. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to keep the home safe and clean. If parents need help, they are responsible for asking for that help.
- C. Children have the right to have meals that are healthy and nutritious. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to provide healthy, nutritious meals and snacks.
- D. Children have the right to go to the church/temple of their choice or not to go to church/temple at all. Parents have the right and responsibility to provide religious guidance to their child.
- E. Children have the right to timely access to go to the doctor or dentist. Parents have the responsibility to ensure their child receives medical services. If parents need help, they are responsible for asking for that help.
- F. Children have the right to get help to learn communication, motor and social skills. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to ensure that these needs are addressed on the IEP and to ask questions if they do not understand the services their child will receive.
- G. Children have the right to accept help and training without force. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to guide children to accept help and training which will help them to reach their full potential.

- H. Children have the right to some private time and a private place to be alone. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to provide a safe place where a child can be alone.
- I. Children have a right to use a telephone, write letters or talk to friends and families. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility for ensuring safe usage of the telephone and to provide assistance in helping children learn to communicate with others.
- J. Children have a right to have personal belongings. These items should not be taken away as a form of punishment. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to teach children how to take care of personal belongings and to use them in a safe, appropriate manner. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to select items for the child that are age appropriate and will pose no danger to the child.
- K. Children have the right to socialize and make friends. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to teach children how to interact with others in a respectful manner.
- L. Children have the right to participate in activities that will help them grow. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to provide opportunities for children to participate in age appropriate activities.
- M. Children have the right to develop employability skills so they will have the ability to save money for their dreams and goals. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to help children learn employability skills through a variety of activities (e.g. chores, homework)
- N. Children have the right to be treated like everyone else under the law. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to teach children the basic rules they will need to know to be successful in the community and to respect the rights of others.
- O. Children have the right to not be physically or mentally abused (hit, hurt, yelled at, talked to disrespectfully). Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to ensure children are not physically or mentally abused.
- P. Children have the right to help make appropriate choices. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to teach children how to make good choices by providing them with age appropriate opportunities to make choices.
- Q. Children have the right to help make decisions that affect their life. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to teach children how to make good decisions by providing age appropriate opportunities to make decisions.

- R. Children have the right to ask other people for help. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to teach children who they can go to when they need help.
- S. Children have the right to manage and spend money based on their ability. Parents have the responsibility to provide opportunities for children to earn and manage money responsibly.
- T. Children have the right to have personal information in their school files be kept private. Parents have the responsibility to decide who should have access to their child's personal information.
- U. Children have the right to disagree or voice concerns about their daily activities and services without being threatened. Parents have the responsibility to be an advocate for their child and ensure the child is getting the services needed.
- V. Children have the right to be free from unnecessary chemical or physical restraints to control their behavior. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to assist with development of Positive Support plans for their child and to help them get mental health treatment.
- W. Children have the right to learn about how laws are made, to be a part of their community and to vote when they come of age. Parents and other caretakers have the responsibility to participate in the political process and to teach children how to be a good citizen.
- X. Children have the right to be exempt from participation in studies or experiments. Parents have the responsibility to determine if their child should participate in studies or experiments.

REPORTING VIOLATIONS OF RIGHTS

Any person with a developmental disability who believes that his/her rights outlined above have been violated, or any other person, may bring the violation to the attention of the appropriate service provider or may report the violation to any of the following agencies:

Allen County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Marimor School

2550 Ada Road
Lima, Ohio 45801
419-221-1385

Disability Rights Ohio

8 East Long Street, 5th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
1-614-466-7264 or 1-800-282-9181
TTY 614-728-2553 or 1-800-858-3542

Ohio Department of DD

30 E. Broad Street 13th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
1-800-617-6733
M.U.I. hotline – 1-866-313-6733