

Responsibility Centre:	POLICY SECTION	Sub-section:
Community Planning and Development	Service Delivery	Individual & Family Support
Subject: Eligibility for CLBC Supports and Services		
Effective:	Scope:	Approval by:
December 2006	CLBC	 <hr/> Chief Executive Officer

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to provide clarification on the criteria and process used by CLBC to determine eligibility for its direct or funded supports and services. In addition, this policy addresses the need for consistency and equity in determining access to services.

2. Terminology

- 2.1 *DSM IV*: Refers to the ‘Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders’ (4th edition, American Psychiatric Association). This manual is accepted internationally as a primary clinical reference enabling psychologists, psychiatrists and other professionals to identify and describe a range of intellectual, psychological, psychiatric and related conditions using commonly understood and validated terminology.
- 2.2 *‘Registered Psychologist’*: Refers to an individual (registered with the College of Psychologists and licensed to practise in British Columbia.
- 2.3 *‘Certified Psychologist’*: Refers to a psychologist certified by the British Columbia Association of School Psychologists.

3. Policy

- 3.1 CLBC is mandated under the provisions of the Community Living Authority Act to provide supports and services to individuals with ‘developmental disabilities’.
- 3.2 “Developmental disability” as defined in the Community Living Authority Act means: ‘significantly impaired intellectual functioning that
- manifests before the age of 18 years,
 - exists concurrently with impaired adaptive functioning and

Eligibility for CLBC Supports and Services (continued)

- (c) meets other prescribed criteria' (as of the date of this policy, no further criteria have been prescribed)
- 3.3 To be eligible for CLBC services, an individual must meet all the requirements of developmental disability as defined above in the Act.
- 3.4 CLBC confirms the presence of a developmental disability through assessments provided by registered or certified psychologists as defined above.
- 3.5 In assessing the elements of developmental disability, registered or certified psychologists apply the "Diagnostic Criteria for Mental Retardation" including the criteria for age of onset, intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior as cited in the DSM IV.

Practice Guidelines

- 3.6 Individuals and children requesting services from CLBC due to the presence of a developmental disability must provide initial confirmation of developmental disability from a registered or certified psychologist.
- 3.7 Individuals who have already been accepted as being eligible for CLBC services *on the basis of their developmental disability* are not required to be reassessed.
- 3.8 Children who have been deemed eligible prior to September 2006 *on the basis of their developmental disability* are not required to be reassessed to continue to be eligible for services as an adult.
- 3.9 Children receiving CLBC services through either the Autism or At Home Programs may not necessarily have been assessed for developmental disability. A full assessment from a registered or certified psychologist will be required in these circumstances prior to consideration of extending services into adulthood.
- 3.10 Information on available registered psychologists trained to carry out full assessments of developmental disability can be found at:
www.collegeofpsychologists.bc.ca
- 3.11 Information on psychologists certified by the B.C. Association of School Psychologists can be found at: <http://www.bcasp.ca/index.htm>
- 3.12 A Quality Service Analyst will review the assessing psychologist's report to determine that there is confirmation of a developmental disability as specifically defined in the DSM IV.
- 3.13 When a report provides information that appears confusing or conflicting, the Quality Service Analyst may request further information from the assessing psychologist.
- 3.14 If the assessing psychologist is unable to confirm the presence of a developmental disability as cited above, a Quality Service Analyst may arrange for a further assessment from another registered or certified psychologist or make a referral to the Provincial Assessment Centre.
- 3.15 To support equitable access, CLBC will cover the costs of a psychological assessment conducted outside the school system.
- 3.16 Maximum cost for an assessment will reflect local sessional fees and must be approved by the Quality Service Manager.

Eligibility for CLBC Supports and Services (continued)

- 3.17 Based on all the information provided, the Quality Service Analyst will determine whether an individual is eligible for supports and services under the Act.