



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

DDS

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

Jordan A. Scheff
Acting Commissioner

February 3, 2017

To all DDS employees

Message from Acting Commissioner Jordan Scheff

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Scheff".

For your information, Governor Malloy will present his proposed budget to the legislature on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 for the next two fiscal years (FY 2018 and FY 2019). As a reminder, the Governor's proposed biennial budget is the first step during the legislative session towards achieving a balanced state budget. After the proposed budget is presented, the legislature's Appropriations Committee will hold public hearings. DDS will present testimony on Thursday February 23rd, and the public may sign up to testify at the public hearing the same afternoon and evening. Information on how the public may sign up to testify can be found at [DDS Legislative Update- February 1, 2017](#).

After the budget hearings are held, there will be follow-up Appropriations Committee subcommittee meetings with state agencies to gather additional information. The subcommittees then make recommendations to the full Appropriations Committee, which will vote a proposed budget out of the committee. Once a budget is voted out of the Appropriations Committee, negotiations begin between the Governor's office, the Appropriations and Finance Revenue and Bonding Committees' leadership and legislative leaders. These discussions are on-going until a consensus can be reached on a budget that will be presented to the entire General Assembly for a final vote.

We will plan to share the details of the Governor's budget as it relates to DDS after it is presented on February 8th. Agency testimony on the proposed budget and other legislative issues will be posted to the DDS website on the "Legislative Affairs" page throughout the session. You may check [here](#) for frequent legislative updates.

Please know I recognize the stress and uncertainty that this process creates. I remain committed to keeping you informed, and most importantly, the department remains committed to those we support. I hope you find this communication helpful.