

State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services Abuse and Neglect Registry

The Connecticut Department of Developmental Services (DDS) Abuse and Neglect Registry (Registry) is a registry, mandated by Connecticut General Statutes, which is administered and maintained by the DDS. It contains the names of former employees who have been terminated or separated from employment as a result of substantiated abuse, neglect or both of individuals with ID/DD or autism that receive services or funding from the DDS.

As mandated, if an employee is terminated or separated from employment due to substantiated abuse, neglect or both, the employer must notify the DDS of the termination or separation. For purposes of the Registry, an employer is defined as an agency, organization or individual that is licensed or funded by the DDS. This includes supported individuals who hire their own employees.

Once the DDS receives notice of an employee's termination or separation for substantiated abuse, neglect or both, the DDS notifies the employee of their right to an administrative hearing in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act (UAPA), Chapter 54, of the Connecticut General Statutes, the outcome of which will determine if their name may be placed on the DDS Abuse and Neglect Registry. An administrative hearing is conducted by an independent Hearing Officer and the DDS Commissioner issues the final decision after considering the independent Hearing Officer's proposed decision. The former employee, aggrieved by the final decision, may appeal the Commissioner's decision in accordance with the UAPA.

A former employee whose name has been placed on the Registry is prohibited from volunteering with or being employed by any individual supported by the DDS or by any employer licensed and or funded by the DDS for a minimum of five years for a finding of abuse and two years for a finding of neglect. After that time, the former employee may submit a written request to the Commissioner of the DDS to have his or her name removed from the Registry for good cause shown. Removal of a name from the Registry is at the discretion of the Commissioner of the DDS.

Prior to the hiring of any employee by an agency, organization or individual that is licensed or funded by the DDS, an inquiry must be made to determine if the potential employee's name is on the DDS Registry. If the applicant's name is on the Registry, the employer shall not hire said applicant. Additionally, if an employer receives notice that a current employee's name has been placed on the Registry, said employer shall not retain such employee.

The DDS is dedicated to promoting a culture of safety and freedom from abuse and neglect for each individual and is committed to prevention practices intended to minimize potential incidents of abuse, neglect or both for individuals. The DDS Abuse and Neglect Registry process supports the DDS in that mission and ensures that an employee who has been placed on the Registry based on their actions while employed for one employer does not have the ability to go work for another, potentially putting other supported individuals at risk for abuse, neglect or both.

For more information, refer to: Connecticut General Statutes 17a-247a to 17a-247e