

DSO at a glance

What is DSO

DSO is the access point to adult developmental services funded by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS).

What DSO does

DSO connects adults with developmental disabilities, living in Ontario, to Ministry-funded services and supports in their community.

How DSO supports you

DSO confirms your eligibility. It also meets with you to determine the kind of services and supports you need.

When to apply

Apply early at age 16 to confirm your eligibility. Ministry-funded services and supports can be accessed after you turn 18.

Why DSO supports you

DSO connects people with available resources so they can become more independent and involved in their communities.

Where to apply

Apply online at dsontario.ca, or call 2-1-1 to connect with your area DSO.

Call **2-1-1** (toll-free 1-877-330-3213)
or visit dsontario.ca

What DSO does and does not do?



DSO does not provide direct services or emergency services but...



DSO will help connect you to the best services and resources for your needs



DSO does not provide housing but...



DSO will connect you to the resources best able to help with your housing needs



DSO does not provide funding but...



DSO is the access point for Ministry-funded adult developmental services and supports

What Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) does...

and does not do?



DSO does...

- serve as the access point for Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) funded adult developmental services
- help you understand and complete the process to apply for Ministry-funded services and supports
- confirm your eligibility to access adult developmental services, which may also include Passport funding
- help you determine the best services and supports for your unique needs
- work with you to navigate and understand housing options
- connect you to other community resources



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or visit [dsontario.ca](https://www.dsontario.ca)



DSO does not...

- provide emergency services
- provide funding, funding assistance or initiate funding increases
- provide direct supports and services
- provide housing
- provide direct case management
- influence when someone receives supports
- refer to non-Ministry funded services which may be available at a cost
- ensure the continuity of children's services beyond age 18
- manage or oversee other service providers funded by MCCSS

Application Process

1 Get eligibility documents ready

To apply for Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) funded adult developmental services, Developmental Services Ontario (DSO) will need to first confirm you are eligible (e.g., live in Ontario, have a developmental disability, and are 18 years of age). You can apply early at 16.

4 Stay in touch

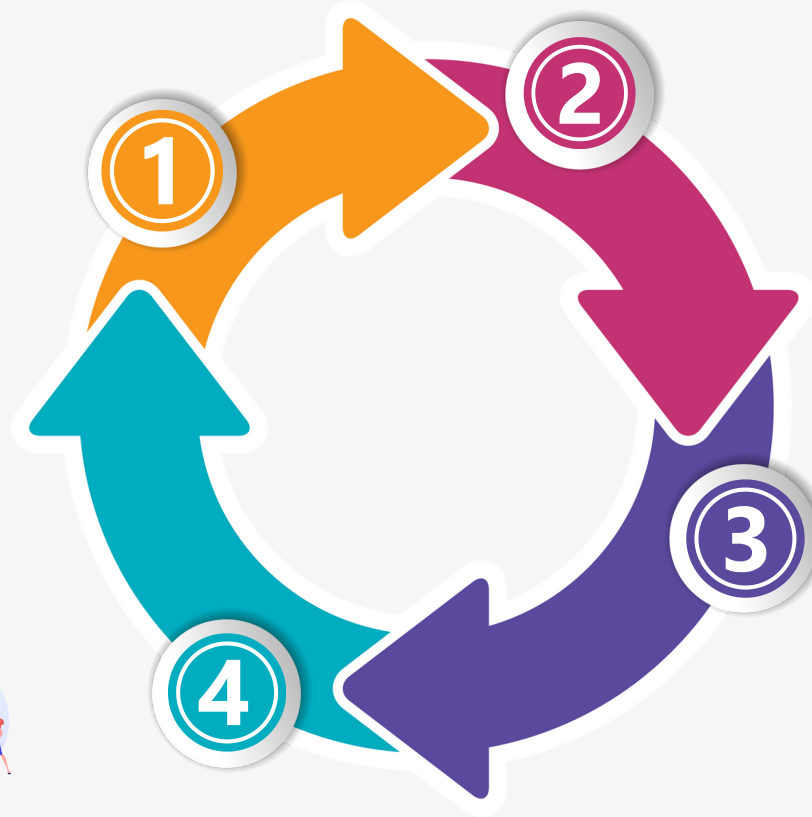
It will take some time before you get your services and supports. Call your DSO if your contact information or situation changes significantly.

2 Apply online or call your area DSO

Apply online at dsontario.ca, or call 2-1-1 to reach your area DSO. With all the correct documents, you can be confirmed eligible for adult developmental services at age 16. Adult services are for people age 18 and older.

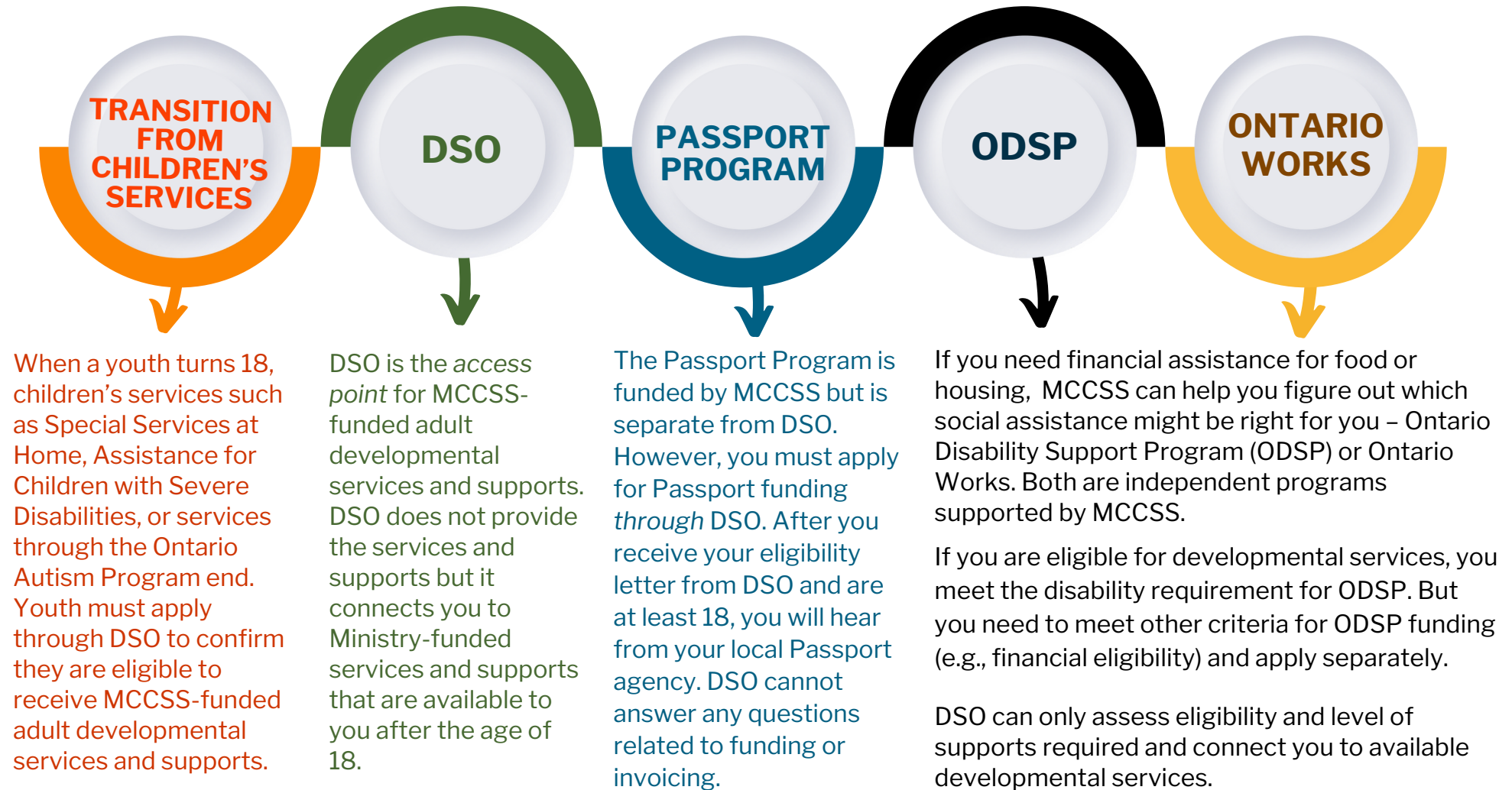
3 Complete an application

Once confirmed eligible, you will be connected to a DSO assessor in your area to help you complete an application package. This determines the kind of support you may need. You will need to have at least two people who know you well (e.g., parent, guardian, teacher, etc.) with you at the meetings. Once the assessor knows your needs, you can be connected to services that are available in your area.



Call **2-1-1**
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or visit dsontario.ca

DSO and other Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) programs and services



When to apply → Apply at 16

Eligible at 18

Apply at 17 ½

Apply at 16

Learn more → dsontario.ca

passportfunding.ca

ontario.ca/page/ontario-disability-support-program

ontario.ca/page/ontario-works