



2009 Lobbyist Apprentice - Job Description

The lobbyist apprentice program was developed by the Governors Developmental Disability Council (DD Council) to give persons with disabilities hands-on experience "lobbying" their legislators at the State Capitol and advocating for their issues locally.

The lobbyist apprentice program is not a job - it is designed as an internship offered to qualified persons who have an interest in becoming better advocates and learn more about the legislative process.

Expectations

- Participants commit to three Capitol visits sometime between January and April. They will receive a per diem for those visits (\$30/day) and reimbursement for travel and meal expenses to offset the expense of participation.
- Participants commit to attending Advocating Change Day 2009 (April 1, 2009). Participants will be paid a per diem and travel expenses if they bring a group to the Capitol with them, or act as a guide to a group attending.
- Participants commit to attending an orientation/training session in the Fall 2008 and a post-session meeting upon conclusion of the session, both held in Des Moines. No per diem will be provided for these events, but participants will be reimbursed for travel expenses, lodging if necessary, & meals.
- Training will be provided to participants on how to be effective advocates, how to develop and deliver messages, and the basics on the Iowa legislative process. Advocacy toolkits will be provided at the training, as well as the development of an individualized advocacy plan.
- Participants will agree to attend local public forums or conduct other at-home advocacy between Capitol visits, and share their experiences in writing (via *infoNET*). We may ask that participants submit commentary using a Web Log ("Blog") if available.

- Participants are strongly encouraged to have a computer with Internet access, but this is by no means required.
- This opportunity is open to all persons with disabilities and family members of persons with disabilities.
- This is an advanced advocacy opportunity – it is available only to those that have done some type of advocacy in the past.
- To apply, fill out and submit an application by August 29, 2008. You can get a copy of this application online at: www.infonetiowa.com or by calling toll free 866/432-2846 (866/432-2847 toll free TTY/TDD). You can also email us at info@idaction.org.