

DDS Legislative Update – February 5, 2020

New Session Begins February 5, 2020 and Ends May 6, 2020

The 2020 legislative session begins on Wednesday, February 5, 2020 and ends on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at midnight. This year’s session is called a “short” session which occurs in even numbered years. The main task of the General Assembly in a short session is to make adjustments to the two-year budget for the state passed in the previous year’s long session. **The budget adjustments will be made to the fiscal year (FY) 2021 portion of the two year budget that covers state appropriations and revenues from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021.** Besides adjusting the budget, House and Senate members will work to pass bills that are “raised” by legislative committees based on input from various constituencies and executive branch agencies like DDS.

All bills must have a public hearing before they can be voted on and move forward. **Public hearings are where Connecticut citizens have their voices heard on the range of issues that the legislature will be working on during this session.** For the Department of Developmental Services and the individuals and families that receive supports and services from DDS, the public hearings of the Appropriations Committee, the Public Health Committee and the Human Services Committee are very important.

Governor’s Midterm Budget Adjustments Fiscal Year 2021

On the 2020 session’s opening day, February 5, 2020, Governor Lamont addressed the General Assembly and detailed his midterm budget adjustments for fiscal year 2021. As soon as the links to the **Governor’s Midterm Budget Adjustments** are available we will send them out in an update.

Appropriations Committee Public Hearings and DDS Budget Presentation

Appropriations Committee staff has indicated to DDS that the department’s budget presentation and the **Appropriations Committee’s public hearing on Health Agencies**, which includes the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), tentatively, may be held on **Friday, February 21, 2020**. As soon as the Appropriations Committee finalizes its public hearing schedule and makes information available on how to sign-up for the public hearings, we will send it to you.

Links to the General Assembly and Legislative Committees

[Connecticut General Assembly](#)

[Appropriations Committee](#)

[Public Health Committee](#)

[Human Services Committee](#)

DDS Legislative E-Mail Updates - If you would like to receive DDS Legislative E-Mail Updates, please e-mail [Legislative Affairs](#) to sign up. Legislative updates will contain information on pending legislation, committee meetings, public hearings and legislative sessions of interest to DDS and its stakeholders.