DDCDA Newsletter

Issue 7
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Financial Grant Opportunity

The lack of awareness about Dyspraxia/DCD makes it extremely difficult to receive a proper diagnosis. Dyspraxia DCD America's new financial grant program will assist families struggling to receive a diagnosis for their child.

A grant will be awarded for the benefit of an individual between the ages of 5 and 18, residing in the United States and seeking an assessment for Dyspraxia/DCD by an Occupational Therapist (OT), Physical Therapist (PT), and/or a Speech-Language Pathologist/Therapist (SLP).

The grant is provided for future assessments and is not available for reimbursement of previous expenditures. Funds are disbursed directly to a licensed Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist and/or a Speech-Language Pathologist/Therapist on behalf of the awarded individual.

Documentation supporting why you think your child may have Dyspraxia/DCD must be included with the application in order to be considered.

All of the grant guidelines and the application are posted on our website.

The first application window opens on June 1!

SCAN ME

Do You Have Dyspraxia/DCD? Share Your Story with Us!

We feature stories from children, teens, and adults living with Dyspraxia/DCD on our website. We hope that sharing each individual experience can inspire and encourage others. Everyone's story is unique and important, and we would love to hear yours!

SCAN ME

Ask DDCDA

What does it look like to have Dyspraxia/DCD?

Dyspraxia/DCD is a common neurodevelopmental disorder that is diagnosed when an individual has difficulty learning and performing motor skills used in everyday life. The individual may have difficulty with small, or fine, motor skills involved in dressing, writing or using eating utensils and/or large, or gross, motor skills involved in ball skills or riding a bike. Academic and work performance are also affected by these motor difficulties.

Although motor skill difficulties are central to the diagnosis of Dyspraxia/DCD, individuals may appear to have very different symptoms from one another. Some may have more difficulty with fine motor skills while others may struggle primarily with gross motor skills. Some individuals are severely affected, while others may have moderate or mild symptoms. Further, symptoms may vary, with an individual having some days that are better than others.

This variability adds to the difficulty in identifying and diagnosing Dyspraxia/DCD. However, even for those with mild symptoms, a diagnosis can be an important key to obtaining proper support and having the opportunity to live up to one's full potential.

Free Parent Webinar on IEPs and Advocacy

Join us on Tuesday August 4 at 7 PM for a **free** webinar hosted by Stacey Hoagland about IEP assessments and advocacy. This will be a great resource for parents, as well as educators and other professionals. We are lucky to share her expertise as an advocate, disability consultant, and trainer. You can register via the QR code or find it on our social media.

SCAN ME

Summer Steps Challenge

Lace up your sneakers, put on your step tracker, and get ready to move! From July 12-18 we invite you to join our virtual step challenge to raise awareness about Dyspraxia DCD America. Registrants will compete for the most steps taken in the week, and the top three steppers will win gift cards. Registration opens soon! Follow our social media pages for more information.

In Person 5K in New York

New York Readers - Save the date for November 7th when we will host our first in-person 5K! More information will be shared about location and registration on our social media as the date draws near. We hope to see you in November!

Changes to our Website

The "Find a Provider" page on our website has received a much needed update! The new page has links to provider search pages on the Society for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatricians (SDPB) and the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) websites, as well as suggested search terms. We will continue adding to this page as new information is found. If you know of a provider or group that serves people with Dyspraxa/DCD, please let us know!

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Friend
Of
Dyspraxia DCD america
Raising Awareness and Providing Support for Dyspraxia/DCD

Friends of Dyspraxia DCD America

This year we are launching a donor membership program:
Friends of Dyspraxia DCD America!

As a Friend of Dyspraxia DCD America, you'll join our mission to raise awareness, provide support and advocate for those impacted by Dyspraxia/DCD in the United States by contributing steady financial support. And, by displaying the Dyspraxia DCD America magnet, you'll spread awareness. Look for more information on our website this spring. Together we can make a lasting difference!

In The News

Ongoing Federal Legislative Efforts

Representatives Mike Lawler and Josh Gottheimer reintroduced the ***Gabriel Rosenberg Dyspraxia/DCD Coverage Act***, House Resolution (H.R.) 2943, in April 2025. This legislation would establish a study on current insurance coverage for diagnosis and treatment and identify barriers to coverage. The bill holds special significance for our organization. Gabriel, son of the founder of Dyspraxia DCD America, was diagnosed with Dyspraxia/DCD early in life. Thanks to early diagnosis and access to essential services, he has overcome significant challenges.

We are connecting with private and medical organizations to gain their endorsement. Please reach out to your congressional representative and ask them to support this bill!

We are incredibly grateful for the ongoing support of our donors as we advance our mission to raise awareness and provide resources for those affected by Dyspraxia/DCD. We're proud of what our small group of volunteers has accomplished thus far, but there's so much more to do. As we forge ahead, your continued support and collaboration remain invaluable. Together, we can make a lasting impact by promoting understanding and ensuring that individuals with Dyspraxia/DCD receive the understanding and support they deserve.

LEARN MORE

Dyspraxia/DCD and Comorbidities

Someone with Dyspraxia/DCD (Developmental Coordination Disorder) may:

- Have another diagnosis at the same time.
- Have symptoms in addition to movement and coordination.
- Have emotional or mental health issues because of the stress of living with the disorder.

Difficulties with movement, coordination, and motor planning are the main signs and symptoms of Dyspraxia/DCD. Symptoms vary widely from one individual to another, and for the same individual from one day to the next, as well as in different stages of life. Struggles may also occur in other areas. DCD is often accompanied by comorbidities such as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Executive Function Disorder (EFD).

Difficulty making friends, depression and anxiety(1), lack of self-esteem(2), and a lowering of perceived self-efficacy may result from the frustration, embarrassment, and stigma of struggling to keep up with peers. There is some indication that preventative psychological care could be an important factor in the treatment of Dyspraxia/DCD and its comorbidities.(3)

ADHD and DCD are often co-occurring conditions.(4,5) Research also indicates that generalized Executive Function deficits are common in individuals with DCD.(6,7,8) One recent study showed that 49.1% of adults with DCD also had co-occurring deficits in Executive Function and recommended evaluating EF in a DCD care plan.(9)

Ideally, an individual with Dyspraxia/DCD works with a multidisciplinary team considering the whole child/person. Take a look at our infographic for a visual overview of Dyspraxia/DCD and other conditions that may co-occur.

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