Focus Areas
Fiscal Year 2018

The Arizona Center for Disability Law (ACDL) is the agency chosen to provide protection and advocacy services in Arizona. Protection and advocacy services include legal representation, investigation of abuse and neglect, outreach, education and training, technical assistance and self-advocacy materials. The demand for free legal and advocacy services to address disability-related legal issues is far greater than the ACDL's available resources. To make the most of the available resources, each year the ACDL develops areas of focus to serve individuals with disabilities who fit into specific federal program eligibility guidelines.

The ACDL considers the following factors in deciding whether it can provide legal and advocacy services:

Case Selection Factors that Apply to All Programs

1. The applicant must meet the program eligibility guidelines.

2. The legal problems must fall within an area of focus and objective for services.

3. The ACDL only provides legal services to address legal issue(s) that:
   a) relate to an individual(s)' disability,
   b) may be resolved by the ACDL's legal and advocacy staff, and
   c) is supported by the facts and the law.

4. The ACDL generally provides legal and advocacy services to individuals when other individuals, agencies, attorneys or organizations cannot resolve the matter. For example, the ACDL generally will not be able to represent you if you already have an attorney or other advocacy assistance or have the right to appointed counsel in a specific matter.

5. Individuals from under-served or unserved populations or geographic regions will receive priority for outreach, training and representation.

6. Individuals whose legal problems present opportunities to address systemic and policy issues that will likely help groups of individuals with disabilities will receive priority for litigation.

7. Even if an individual's legal issue meets the other factors, services will **always** depend upon the availability of staff and resources.