

THE IDAHO STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC) IS LOOKING FOR MEMBERS!

Our Mission

The Idaho State Independent Living Council's mission is to promote, advocate for and enhance the ability of all Idahoans with disabilities to live independently, direct their lives and participate fully in their community of choice. The SILC actively engages in activities that assist in providing Idahoans with disabilities a greater voice in obtaining services that are consumer-responsive, cost-effective and community based.

Who serves on the Council?

Council Members include regional representatives who have a disability, and representatives from the Centers for Independent Living, state agencies and other non-governmental or non-profit organizations that provide services to Idahoans with disabilities. SILC membership is made up of a majority of people with disabilities. The Council strives for membership that reflects the diversity of Idaho.

Why is it important for the Council to have diverse representation?

It is important that all voices and life experiences are heard and represented; that the State Plan for Independent Living meets the needs of ALL Idahoans with disabilities.

What do Council Members do?

It is the responsibility of each member to represent their geographic area, presenting issues and concerns from their region to inform efforts toward systemic change. Council members help develop Idaho SILC policy, programs and our legislative agenda. Council members help conduct the statewide needs assessment and develop and monitor the State Plan for Independent Living.

How often does the Council meet?

The Council meets quarterly, in January, April, July, and October. Meetings can be one or two days long. Committees may meet more frequently by telephone or through Zoom meetings. Members may participate virtually when they are unable to travel, though in-person participation is encouraged when possible.

How much work is involved outside of quarterly meetings?

Approximately 1-3 hours a month, depending on committee assignments and availability.

How long are appointments?

Members may serve two terms. Each term is three years. Second terms are not guaranteed. If a member is appointed to serve out the remainder of another person's term, they may still be eligible to apply for an additional two terms.

What experience is needed to serve on the Council?

No previous professional experience is required. Council members are encouraged to share their lived experience as people with disabilities. All Council members are provided training and opportunities to participate in state and national conferences.

Is Council membership a paid position?

The Council is an unpaid, volunteer position. Travel, hotel accommodations and meals are paid by the Council.

What if I need technology, transportation, or other resources to help me participate?

Resources are available to help remove barriers to participation for Council Members. Barriers can include technology, transportation, language/communication, personal assistant services, etc.

What is the independent living movement and philosophy?

The Independent Living Movement is founded in the belief that people with disabilities, regardless of the form, have a common history and a shared struggle – Our community and culture are stronger when we unite with one voice to create positive change across all communities.

Independent Living emphasizes the empowerment of individuals with disabilities to take control of our own lives to the maximum extent possible. The person isn't a patient, but a consumer that controls the services that need. The problem isn't with the individual, but the environmental and societal barriers to independent living. The solution is to remove barriers through advocacy, self-help and peer support.

Link to Council Application: <https://silc.idaho.gov/council-information-composition>

Send your application along with a resume or summary of your school or lived experience to:

Idaho SILC

P.O. Box 83720

Boise, ID 83720-9601

OR

Call the SILC office to have an application mailed to you, get help completing the form or learn more:

208-334-3800 or toll-free: 1-800-487-4866

What's next?

The membership committee will review your application packet and contact you to schedule an interview before the next quarterly SILC meeting. The membership committee will make a recommendation to the full Council based on your application and interview. Upon your successful selection, you will complete a gubernatorial appointment form and send it to the SILC office for submission with the Council's

recommendation. As per the Governor's requirements, nominees may be subject to a criminal background check.