

Partners in Policymaking

Become a Partner in Policymaking

More than four hundred Virginia PIP alumni, and thousands who have graduated from PIP programs across the country, have learned how to make a difference every day for themselves, their families, and their communities.

Individuals participating in PIP attend advocacy training, resource development, and skill building workshops led by state and national experts. Topics covered include the history of the disability rights movement, self-advocacy, independent living, employment, building inclusive communities, natural supports, legislative advocacy, assistive technology, communication, team building, and much more! VBPD covers all expenses for participants' training, lodging, meals, and travel.

Partners in Policymaking Overview

Application and selection as a participant for the Partners in Policymaking (PIP) program requires a substantial commitment of time, motivation and energy. If accepted, individuals must attend seven two-day sessions between September and April. Each session begins on Friday afternoon and concludes Saturday afternoon. Participants meet competencies by agreeing to complete homework, class assignments and one major project.

The group of selected participants, consisting of parents and self-advocates, will build networks with state and national leaders as well as one another. Participants will be educated on best practices and current trends in many areas including:

- History of Disability Movements
- Self-Advocacy
- Independent Living
- Inclusive Education
- Supported Employment
- Personal Futures Planning
- Building Inclusive Communities

- Natural Supports
- Assistive Technology
- Communication & Team Building
- Legislative Process and Strategies

► For more information and answers to frequently asked questions go to [Partners in Policymaking](#)

Contact

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