



*As an Exceptional Student  
in Intellectual Disabilities...*

**You Are Cordially Invited  
to be Seen and Recognized  
as a Future Leader  
in the Field**



*Knowledge | Support | Empowerment*

# You Cannot Start Too Early To Begin Your Rise To Leadership in Our Field

You have been identified as a student in intellectual disabilities who shows both great potential and exceptional commitment. Your professors feel that you may bring positive recognition to our field over the course of your future career.

At the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD), we have a mandate to help develop the potential of outstanding students like you.

## Preparing You to Lead Will One Day Raise the Profile of Everyone in Our Field

Today's senior members of AAIDD have long been a driving force in the field of intellectual disabilities, and are deeply committed to making sure their work informs and inspires even greater progress to come.

That has led them to *seek out promising young students* who have shown leadership qualities and support them with a *full professional membership at a special Student Member rate.*



## As a Student Member Of AAIDD, You'll Receive More Rewards Than a Full-Time Professional

One day in the future, you may well have a well-established career, a network of peers in the field, and a thorough understanding of what it takes to get things done.

Today, though, you're just beginning to see how such realities come together.

AAIDD knows this, so beyond all the standard member benefits — which can be found and reviewed at:

[aaidd.org/Membership/index.shtml](http://aaidd.org/Membership/index.shtml)

— you also get a full array of Student Member extras designed to get you off to a flying start.

They include:

- Exclusive opportunities for training and growth
- Contact and connection with student peers
- A professional network of support
- Personalized guidance from a fellow in the field
- News and information tailored to your needs, and
- An crucial role in a long tradition of service

Established leaders in our field are eager to recognize you — and support you — as a promising young peer *who already shows signs of great promise.*

And their commitment to supporting you can open doors and prepare you to rise...





## The AAIDD Young Professionals Page: Your Clear View of What's Coming

Just one fast click away from the main AAIDD website at [aaidd.org](http://aaidd.org), you'll find a mini-website completely dedicated to getting individuals like you off to a fast, solid start.

The AAIDD Young Professionals Page – built and maintained by Student and Young Professional members of AAIDD – prepares you for early-career success. It provides:

The **Educational Opportunity Clearinghouse**, within the Career Development section, is an ever-expanding database of master's/doctoral programs and post-doctoral opportunities.

Click to it and you'll find direct links to university and related institutional sites, each providing comprehensive details of the goals, emphasis and requirements of each program.

Guided by direct input from students and other users, the developers of the Clearinghouse are constantly working to increase its range, depth and ease of use. Our goal is to streamline the process — and maximize the rewards — of researching your educational and career opportunities.

The **Conference Information** section offers you a current list — and quick links — to the key events in our field.

Visit and you'll learn about upcoming conferences for graduate students -- and how to submit your abstracts. You'll see where and when the leaders in our field will be gathering. And you'll find where to look for interested — and inspiring — research collaborators.

Click to the Conference Information section to keep up with the all the involving events AAIDD — and other leading organizations — will be bringing your way.

With just a few short visits a week to the AAIDD Young Professionals Page, you'll always have a clear and exciting view of [where you can go in your career](#) ... and plenty of help in taking the right path.

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Young Professionals Page" with the URL <http://www.aidd.org/YP/index.shtml>. The browser's address bar shows "Google" as the search engine. The page features a header with a photograph of three young professionals (two men and one woman) and a navigation menu with buttons for "AAIDD Home", "YP Home", and "Contact Us". Below the header, the main content area is titled "AAIDD YOUNG PROFESSIONALS" and includes a "Welcome!" section with a paragraph about the page's purpose and a link to "let us know what you think!". A "New Announcements!" section follows, stating that the page is looking for help to change its name and asking if the user is a New Professional, Young Professional, or Early Career Professional. A call to action at the bottom reads "Please fill out our [survey](#) - only 5 questions!". A green sidebar on the left contains a list of links: "Bookstore", "Career Center", "Conference Information", "Career Development", "SJMR Newsletter", "Young Profiles", and "YP Guide Program".

# To See Your Way to a Successful Career, Turn to Those Who Know What's Out There

## The Guide Program Links You with an Experienced Fellow

So much depends on whom you know, and what those advisors *can teach you* about setting and reaching goals. Register for the AAIDD Guide Program and you'll be assigned an experienced fellow in your locality and/or area of interest. He or she will provide understanding, encouragement, and advice — as well as key connections — to help you stand apart, rise above, and reach your goals.

Your AAIDD fellow will make a two-year commitment to helping you learn all that AAIDD membership can do for you, and will help you prepare for a rewarding future in the field.

## Webinars and Teleconferences Put Expert Help in Immediate Reach

Want advice on landing a job directly from a repeatedly successful job seeker? How about from the head of a hiring committee?

Interested in hearing how to get published from an assistant professor who's been there and done it? How about from a journal editor who's eager to share exactly what he needs?

If you see the value in such advice, keep up with what's coming up in the AAIDD Teleconference Series. Every month, experts reach out to interested students via conference calls — with or without internet-based visuals — to share what they know about achieving success.



## Your Special Student-Member Rate Brings You Full-Member Advantages

When you're on the AAIDD Young Professionals Page, you'll find direct links to two of the most significant benefits of full AAIDD membership:

[The AAIDD Career Center](#) brings job seekers and potential employers together, creating an ever-evolving database of opportunity. Visit the Center to post your resume and to see what employment opportunities are available, worldwide.

[The AAIDD Bookstore](#) offers a comprehensive selection of key works in the field -- covering such topics as assessment, management, reference, research, training, and more. Members-only discounts save you money, and every book in the bookstore meets the exceptionally high standards of AAIDD.

### You'll Also Have Online Access to the Two Most Respected Journals in Our Field

As a student member of AAIDD, you'll have access to our acclaimed and historic journals — *American Journal on Mental Retardation* and *Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities* — online. Especially useful to students at the Doctoral level, these highly respected, peer-reviewed works offer a fascinating view of contemporary progress to everyone in the field.

The online archives, dating back to 1997, will give you valuable insight into where the field has been, where it's going, and where you may find your most rewarding career options.

**Don't wait to get a great start in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities...**

An AAIDD Student Membership is only \$50 yet it will:

- Save you much more than that in special Student Rates to our meetings and annual convention
- Provide you full-member voting rights and meeting access
- Position you to network with top leaders
- Permit you to join AAIDD Special Interest Groups -- to focus in on your areas of interest
- Allow you to organize a student chapter of AAIDD
- Enjoy full access to the new [aaidd.org](http://aaidd.org) -- a more powerful, networking-centered site launching in 2008

The sooner you join, the sooner you'll have all the connections, experience and expertise of AAIDD in your corner.

It's the place where leaders in our field have gathered since 1876.

It's the place for you.

Activate your AAIDD Student membership online today, at [aaidd.org](http://aaidd.org).

Thank you!



American Association  
on Intellectual and  
Developmental Disabilities

444 North Capitol Street, NW • Suite 846  
Washington, DC 20001-1512  
Phone: (202) 387-1968 • (800) 424-3688  
Fax: (202) 387-2193

