



Knowledge | Support | Empowerment

*Are You a Young Professional
Determined to Make Your Mark
in Intellectual Disabilities?*

**Here's How an
Active Young Professional
Membership in AAIDD
Will Put You on the
Path to Leadership**





The Future Leaders In Our Field Set Themselves Apart Early


Will you be one – one of the young professionals in intellectual disabilities who will go on to distinguish yourself as a leader in our field?

It isn't hard to do if you start off with the right direction. At AAIDD, we're in the business of developing tomorrow's leaders by providing them with the connections, opportunities, information and encouragement they need to succeed.

Identify yourself as a young professional eager to grow, and we will be delighted to support you with proven resources and a mandate to inspire success.

You Should Have Every Opportunity to Learn to Lead

Today's senior members of AAIDD have long been powerful advocates of progress in our field. As they look forward, they recognize the role they must play as mentors if their life's work is to have lasting relevance.



That's why we now look to young professionals like you to stand up and be recognized as potential leaders of tomorrow. When you do this – by joining AAIDD at the Active Young Professionals level – you express your desire to continue the AAIDD legacy of leadership...

... and you commit to making extensive use of the many advantages of membership.

Young Professionals Need An Extra Boost To Get Launched In the Right Direction

You know that the early steps for any individual can be crucial in determining that person's long-term path – so AAIDD will put extra effort into supporting your development over these pivotal early years.

For half the price of a standard active membership, you will receive all of the standard AAIDD member benefits, plus an online subscription to one of our two professional journals: American Journal on Mental Retardation or Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

You can review the standard member benefits at: aidd.org/membership/index.shtml

You Need Extra Support – Free – for the Best Possible Start

Connections. Information. Training. News. And guidance. These will be your greatest needs as you seek to become established in the field.

AAIDD will answer those needs with:

- Training in early-career development
- One-on-one advice from an AAIDD Fellow
- Deep appreciation for your commitment to the field
- Networking with young-professional peers
- Regular contact with supportive senior members
- News coverage chosen for maximum relevance to the field

By joining AAIDD at the Young Professional level, you show your appreciation of the work and leaders that came before you. With that in mind, AAIDD will proudly partner with you to develop your own potential for future leadership.

Read on to see the tools and services you will have at your disposal.



Experts at Your Service

The AAIDD Guide Program Partners You with an AAIDD Fellow

At this stage in your career, you're going to have questions. Lots of them.

And you'll also get advice. Lots of it.

But for the most authoritative perspective possible, sign up for the AAIDD Guide Program, and you'll be teamed with an AAIDD Fellow in your locality and/or area of interest. You'll find the connection invaluable when it's time to make a major decision, plan your early career, or search for new opportunities, because a Fellow has "been there, done that," and had it lead to success.

The AAIDD Early Career Development Teleconference Series: Answer the Call to Grow

Imagine attending live seminars on career development without leaving your room. Imagine being able to ask questions, observe a PowerPoint presentation on your computer, and hear the questions and discussion of all the participants.

You're imagining the AAIDD Early Career Development Teleconference Series. Covering topics like "How to Win a Grant," "How to Find Your Next Job," and "How to Get Published," this affordable series of training sessions gives you direct access to experts who "know how it's done."

Sign up for these sessions if you want to hear how to impress the influential decision-makers in the field ... from those very professionals.



Discover a Website Designed to Deliver All That You Need Most

Just one click away from the main AAIDD website – www.aaidd.org – you'll find a labor of love created and maintained by your fellow young professionals in the field.

It's the AAIDD Young Professionals Page, a growing collection of online resources that will keep you coming back to get ahead.

Within its online pages, you'll find:

The AAIDD Student and Young Professionals Newsletter, your comprehensive monthly guide to every AAIDD offering specifically targeted to young professionals. If it's relevant to your development, you'll find it here.

You'll click to it for fascinating features on research by your peers, announcements of fellowships and similar opportunities, and career advice from leaders in the field.

Perhaps most importantly, the Newsletter provides a constant opportunity to make yourself more visible in the field. Contribute your talents to putting it together, and you'll be helping to keep your young colleagues well informed and strongly supported.

It's the kind of involvement established leaders like to see.



More of What You'll Find Online...

The Career Development Section – within the AAIDD Young Professionals Page – helps you see and follow proven paths to growth and opportunity.

Preparing for your next career move? Check out be "Job Interviewing" and "Writing a Curriculum Vitae or Resume" guides. Presenting at a conference for the first time? Learn how to prepare for it here.

Need funding sources for research? You'll find a directory of list providers and step-by-step guides to the process.

Wherever you want to go in your career in intellectual disabilities, you'll find proven methods – and vital motivation – in the Career Development Section.

The Conference Information Section presents a current list of the learning and networking events best suited to your standing as a young professional. Click to it to see what you can learn, who you can meet and where they'll be gathering.

You'll find AAIDD events, plus lots of other learning opportunities. Each listing is conveniently linked to more detailed information, and to easy registration.

Make time to connect to the AAIDD Young Professionals Page every week, and you'll always be aware of how you can grow, make connections, and keep moving down the path to leadership in the field of intellectual disabilities.





Your Young-Professional Dues Delivers Full-Member Benefits

As a Young Professional member, you'll receive the same array of benefits and services that senior members enjoy. Two that emerging professionals find particularly helpful are:

The AAIDD Career Center, which brings together job seekers and potential employers. Visit the center to post your resume and to review exciting career opportunities, and also examine the requirements of senior-level positions you plan on holding in the future.

The AAIDD Bookstore, which offers a comprehensive selection of influential works in the field, covering such topics as assessment, management, reference, research, training, and more. You save money thanks to members-only discounts, and every selection in the bookstore meets the high standards of AAIDD.

You'll Also Receive an Online Subscription to a Legendary Journal

As a young professional member of AAIDD, you'll receive an online subscription to one of our two acclaimed journals – your choice of the American Journal on Mental Retardation or Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

Each is a highly respected, peer-reviewed collection of current notable research in the field, and both have online archives dating back to 1997.

You'll want to get familiar with all the benefits of an active professional membership – which are detailed at aaidd.org/Membership – in addition to the many special benefits of your Young Professional membership.

Together, they'll get you off to a fast start, and keep you growing as a leader throughout your career.

Activate your AAIDD Young Professional Membership Today for Only \$75 Per Year

Your Young Professional membership will be half the cost of a standard Active Membership, yet you'll still get full-member voting rights, exclusive meeting access, and outstanding networking opportunities.

You'll be able to join AAIDD Special Interest Groups, letting you focus in on your own areas of greatest interest.

And you'll have full access to the newly redesigned aidd.org – the most powerful networking, learning, and news tool in the field.

In fact, you'll have all the benefits of a standard Active Membership, plus an additional suite of Young-Professional benefits designed to get you off to the best start possible.

Ready to See How Much It Can All Mean to Your Career?

Then activate your AAIDD Young Professional membership at aidd.org. It's the kind of decisive action that identifies a future leader in the field. So do it today.



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