

**Article – State Government**

9-1101.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) “Council” means the Maryland Advisory Council for Individuals with Disabilities.

(c) “Director” means the Director of the Office.

(D) “DISABILITY”, WITH RESPECT TO AN INDIVIDUAL, HAS THE MEANING STATED IN THE FEDERAL AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990, 42 U.S.C. § 12102.

[(d)](E) “Office” means the Office for Individuals with Disabilities.

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(c) The Director shall have professional experience in program administration and experience in working with [handicapped] individuals WITH DISABILITIES.

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The Office shall:

(1) identify and evaluate the programs and services for [handicapped] individuals WITH DISABILITIES in the State;

(2) collect information to identify programs and services that [handicapped] individuals WITH DISABILITIES need;

(3) identify barriers to the delivery of adequate services and recommend procedures to remove the barriers;

(4) develop an information and referral service for programs and services for [handicapped] individuals WITH DISABILITIES;

(5) foster coordination of and support for public and private agencies that provide programs and services to [handicapped] individuals WITH DISABILITIES;

(6) promote the designation of local or regional offices to coordinate services to [handicapped] individuals WITH DISABILITIES;

(7) monitor and encourage State government compliance with laws and policies affecting [handicapped] individuals WITH DISABILITIES, and recommend changes on behalf of [handicapped] individuals WITH DISABILITIES;

(8) submit to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1312 of this article, to the members of the General Assembly an annual report that gives the status of these programs and services and makes recommendations for more effective delivery of the services;

(9) support the Council in performance of its duties; and