

## Acronyms & Terms Overview Part 1: Disability Benefits

Family Connectors know firsthand how tricky it can be to navigate disability benefits and services in Minnesota. Sometimes it feels like learning a whole new language, especially with all of the different words and acronyms used! To help you get started, here's a handy list of common terms used in our community and by county and government agencies:

Acronyms & Terms	Name	Description	Link
SSA	Social Security Administration	Federal agency that provides financial assistance through disability, retirement, and survivors' benefits.	<a href="https://www.ssa.gov/">https://www.ssa.gov/</a>
SSI	Social Security Income	Monthly cash assistance from SSA for people 18-64, who have a disability and limited assets and resources.	<a href="https://mn.db101.org/mn/programs/income_support/ssi2/program.htm">https://mn.db101.org/mn/programs/income_support/ssi2/program.htm</a>
MA	Medical Assistance	Minnesota's Medicaid program that provides health coverage for people with low income.	<a href="https://disabilityhubmn.org/top-topics/health/medical-assistance/">https://disabilityhubmn.org/top-topics/health/medical-assistance/</a>
MA-TEFRA	Medical Assistance-Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act	Provides MA benefits for children with disabilities in families with incomes too high to qualify for MA.	<a href="https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/people-with-disabilities/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/ma-tefra.jsp">https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/people-with-disabilities/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/ma-tefra.jsp</a>
MA-EPD	Medical Assistance for Employed Persons with Disabilities	With MA-EPD, people can work, earn, save money and still keep their MA benefits. People must pay a premium for MA-EPD coverage.	<a href="https://mn.db101.org/mn/programs/health_coverage/ma-epd/program.htm">https://mn.db101.org/mn/programs/health_coverage/ma-epd/program.htm</a>
MNSure		Minnesota's online health insurance marketplace. Apply for most MA programs here.	<a href="https://www.mnsure.org/">https://www.mnsure.org/</a>
DHS	Minnesota Department of Human Services	State agency that works with partners (for example, counties) to provide human services to vulnerable people.	<a href="https://mn.gov/dhs/">https://mn.gov/dhs/</a>

SMRT	State Medical Review Team	A group within DHS that decides if a person is disabled for state benefits programs. SMRT makes disability determinations for people not certified disabled by the Social Security Administration.	<a href="https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/people-with-disabilities/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/smrt.jsp">https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/people-with-disabilities/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/smrt.jsp</a>
------	---------------------------	--	---

And our most favorite acronym of all...

Acronyms & Terms	Name	Description	Link
FC	Family Connector	Support professional provided by the Down Syndrome Association of Minnesota. Available to walk through all things disability related for your loved one with Down syndrome.	<a href="https://dsamn.org/programs-and-services/families-and-caregivers/family-connectors">https://dsamn.org/programs-and-services/families-and-caregivers/family-connectors</a>

We know, we know- even this list can be a lot! Please don't take it all in on your own. Family Connectors are here to help. Reach out to us today!

[Support Request Form](#)

Phone: 651-603-0720, Press 2

Email: [connect@dsamn.org](mailto:connect@dsamn.org)