

SILC APPLICATION NOW OPEN!

SEEKING Iowa SILC Council Member Candidates for Consideration for Governor-Appointment

PLEASE APPLY BY FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 2021!!!

The Iowa Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) will have between 1-3 Council Member openings on July 1, 2021.

The SILC is a federally-mandated, Governor-appointed Council that works to promote the availability of services and resources in communities so that individuals with disabilities can live independently in the community of their choice, with the services and supports they need, and not be forced to live in institutions such as nursing homes.

The SILC partners and collaborates with the six Iowa Centers for Independent Living (CILs) to work to strengthen the network of CILs and other services and resources that people with disabilities need to live independently and have choice and control over their own lives.

There are six CILs in Iowa, and at least 51% of their staff and Boards must be individuals with disabilities. CILs are run BY people with disabilities, FOR people with disabilities. CILs provide 5 core services to any individual with disabilities seeking their services. This includes information and referral; peer support counseling; independent living skills training; individual and systems advocacy; and transition, which includes transition of high school students into post-secondary education, training, and employment, as well as transitioning people out of nursing homes and other congregate settings and back into living independently in the community of their choice.

The SILC Council is required to have at least 51% of its members who are individuals with disabilities who do NOT work for a State Agency or a Center for Independent Living. The SILC is to be Consumer-controlled, meaning that people with disabilities are the folks who make the decisions as to how the SILC operates. The SILC has a total of 13 Council Members, with 10 being Voting Members and 3 being ex-officio non-voting members.

For more information on the SILC, CILs, and the Independent Living Movement for people with disabilities, please visit the SILC website at www.iowasilc.org.

We are inviting people both with and without disabilities from across the state, who are interested, to apply to be considered for appointment to the SILC by the Governor. We maintain an ongoing file of applicants to be reviewed whenever there is an opening.

The Council has set a PRIORITY to try and find young adults, who have a disability, ages 18-30, to apply to be a SILC Council Member so that we may begin developing young adult leadership in the Independent Living Movement.

However, all interested individuals, with or without a disability, ages 18 and over, are encouraged to apply.

We encourage people to apply who have a PASSION for working on independent living issues, and who are willing to volunteer their time to attend and participate in six Council Meetings, as well as participate on at least one committee that meets via teleconference either monthly or every other month.

These are VOLUNTEER positions that are appointed by the Governor.

INFORMATION TO CONSIDER BEFORE APPLYING

You do NOT need to have previous experience being on a Council or Board. We will provide you with support and training on your role as a voting member on the SILC.

Currently the Council has four quarterly meetings a year, and due to the COVID-19 Pandemic we have been meeting ONLINE via the ZOOM platform.

However, the Council will be considering changes to their Meeting Schedule and Agenda at the May 2021 meeting.

The following meeting schedule is being proposed for CURRENTLY DURING COVID as well as a schedule for POST-COVID when it is safe enough to meet in-person again. Here are highlights of the proposed new meeting schedule:

Proposed SILC Meeting Schedule Changes – DRAFT 3-11-21

CURRENTLY DURING COVID – Zoom Meetings and NO in-person meetings, as follows:

- 6 meetings per year via the ZOOM platform.
- Meetings will be 3 hours each, from 10 am to 1 pm, with a 15 minute break halfway through.
- Meetings will occur on the FIRST THURSDAY in the months of October, December, February, April, June, and August.
- Council training at meetings will be provided twice a year at the February and August meetings, with 1.50 hours allocated in February and 1.25 hours allocated in August.

POST-COVID – Once Council approves meeting in-person, as follows:

- 6 Meetings per year, 4 via Zoom online and 2 in-person meetings.
- 4 Zoom meetings will be same time and schedule as during Covid, 10-1 (3 hours), and held in the months of December, February, June, and August.
- 2 in-person meetings held in October and April.
- OCTOBER will be an in-person ANNUAL TWO-DAY SILC RETREAT on Thursday-Friday, with a 3 hour business meeting and the rest of the time spent in team building and other trainings.
- APRIL will be a full day in-person meeting from 10 – 3

PLEASE NOTE: The Council will need to determine WHEN they feel it is safe to have the October and April in-person meetings. Some options they will consider are as follows:

Deciding on WHEN to start in-person meetings – What are the OPTIONS?:

OPTION 1: Once the Council approves this new meeting schedule, the first upcoming in-person meeting date would be October 7-8, 2021, which is THIS October (remember, October in-person meetings will be an annual two-day SILC Retreat for the SILC business meeting and SILC Council Member team building and training. That may be too soon to have an in-person meeting.

OPTION 2: The next in-person meeting date would be April 7, 2022. This may be a safer and more realistic option.

OPTION 3: The next in-person meeting date would be October 6-7, 2022 (SILC two-day RETREAT).

The NEW Schedule, when approved by the Council, will begin with the OCTOBER 2021 Meeting for the 2021-2022 federal fiscal year (10-1-21 to 9-30/22) as follows:

Calendar of Proposed SILC Meeting Dates

Dates for 2021-2022
Thursday, October 7, 2021 * 10 am to 1 pm – <u>Start New Council Meeting Schedule</u> <u>OR</u> In-Person Two-Day SILC Retreat, Thursday 10/7/21 (12-4:30) and Friday, 10/8/21 (9 -4)
Thursday, December 2, 2021 * 10 am to 1 pm
Thursday, February 3, 2022 * 10 am to 1 pm
Thursday, April 7, 2022 * 10 am to 1 pm <u>OR</u> In-Person Meeting from 10 am to 3 pm
Thursday, June 2, 2022 * 10 am to 1 pm
Thursday, August 4, 2022 * 10 am to 1 pm

New Council Members are generally appointed by the Governor sometime in July. Newly appointed members would be expected to attend their FIRST meeting in September of 2021, which is still on the old schedule, and then again in October of 2021 which is when the new proposed schedule would begin. Here are the dates for those two meetings:

- **Thursday, September 2nd from 10 am to 1 pm** via the online ZOOM platform.
- **Thursday, October 7th from 10 am to 1 pm** via the online ZOOM platform **OR**, if the Council decides to start in-person meetings, this would be the annual 2-Day SILC Retreat from **Thursday, October 7th at NOON through Friday, October 8th at 4:00 pm.**

For those Council Members who live more than an hour from Des Moines, the SILC can provide a hotel room the night before the in-person meetings, and the SILC will reimburse for mileage and a dinner meal to travel to Des Moines the day before the Council Meeting. Free breakfast is provided at the hotel. For all Council Members, the SILC will reimburse for mileage to attend the meeting, the SILC will provide lunch at the Council Meeting, and will provide reimbursement for the salary, meal, and hotel for a Personal Assistant (PA) if one is needed. All reimbursements are subject to the State allowable rates, and the rates set by the SILC Council.

All SILC Council Meetings are accessible, and Council Members will be provided with accessible documents and interpreters as needed and requested. Reasonable accommodations are available for all Council Members. It is the responsibility of each Council Member to inform the SILC Executive Director of any accommodations they need, and to work with her to get those accommodations put into place.

The SILC Mission...

Our Mission is to strengthen the voice of Iowans with disabilities on issues affecting their lives, to build a statewide network of centers for independent living, and to collaborate with our partners in advancing the independence, productivity, and full inclusion of Iowans with disabilities.

Job Description: SILC Council Member

ESSENTIAL DUTIES

1. Participate actively in Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) meetings and activities.
2. Work actively on at least one committee or work team of the SILC.
3. Facilitate development of new independent living leaders within the state.
4. Assist in the development of the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL).

VALUES DESIRED

1. Commitment to the issue of “consumer control,” meaning that people with disabilities should have control over their lives and decision-making.
2. Belief in principles of equal access and equal opportunity, and equity.
3. Commitment to full integration of people with disabilities into all aspects of society.
4. Possession of honesty, integrity, and respect for the values of others.
5. Possession of strong personal code of ethics, including maintaining confidentiality, avoiding conflict of interest, and avoiding self-dealing.

QUALIFICATIONS

1. Knowledge and/or experience with team work (we can provide training).
2. Knowledge and/or experience with independent living (we can provide training).

3. Knowledge and/or experience in state and federal advocacy, fundraising, public relations, program development, or other activities that will help promote the SILC mission.

ESTIMATED TIME COMMITMENT (excluding travel time)

12.00 hours -- 4 ZOOM ONLINE SILC Meetings from 10 am to 1 pm (12 hours);
5.00 -- one in-person meeting from 10 am to 3 pm (5 hours excluding travel time);
11.50 -- one in-person two day Annual SILC Retreat from 12-4:30 Thursday, and 10 to 4 on Friday (4.50 hours Thursday and 6.0 hours on Friday excluding travel time).
12.00 -- reading-preparation in advance for SILC meetings-2 hours/meeting
8.00 -- committee teleconferences/reading/prep for committee meetings
48.50 Hours TOTAL ANNUALLY

For more information on the Iowa SILC and Independent Living, please visit our website at www.iowasilc.org. You may also contact the SILC Executive Director, Dawn Francis, via e-mail at dawn@iowasilc.org, or at her cell phone number at 515-480-3027.

**TO APPLY TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SILC APPOINTMENT
BY THE GOVERNOR:**

There are TWO simple steps to apply:

STEP #1: Please go to the Iowa Talent Bank website at the link below to complete a Gubernatorial Appointment Resume to be considered for Governor-appointment to the SILC. The link is to the Iowa SILC section of the Iowa Talent Bank where it has a link to “Apply to This Board”.

PLEASE NOTE you will have to create a Username and Password to use this site and complete the application.

IF you encounter ANY PROBLEMS with using the Iowa Talent Bank website, please contact the Iowa SILC Executive Director, Dawn Francis, either via e-mail at dawn@iowasilc.org, or via her cell phone at 515-480-3027 so that she may assist you with the application.

LINK TO APPLY: <https://talentbank.iowa.gov/board-detail/7fccdaf6-5908-46e0-8211-41f0d8a63553>

STEP #2: PLEASE e-mail the SILC Executive Director, Dawn Francis, at dawn@iowasilc.org, with **a short written statement about why you would like to be on the SILC, and what you feel you can contribute as a member of the SILC.** This information, along with the application you submit in the Iowa Talent Bank, will be reviewed by the SILC Outreach Committee. It is REALLY helpful to the committee to have a narrative from each candidate so they can determine the qualifications for each candidate in terms of meeting federal requirements for SILC composition, as well as your interest and commitment to serving on the SILC.

The SILC Outreach Committee will review all applications in terms of candidates meeting federal requirements for SILC composition and their stated interest and commitment to serving on the SILC, and will present a roster of recommended candidates to the full SILC Council to approve at the May 2021 SILC meeting. The list of candidates approved by the SILC Council will then be shared with the Governor's office for consideration for appointment.

The Governor makes the final decision as to who is appointed to the SILC Council. The Governor's Office usually makes all appointments by the first week of July.

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