ARKANSAS SPINAL CORD COMMISSION (ASCC)
A state agency established in 1975 to provide a specialized range of services to Arkansans with spinal cord disabilities (SCI/D), at no cost to the client, with emphasis on individualized case management.

ASCC case managers provide “one-to-one” customized services with focus on each client’s needs.

MAKE A REFERRAL TO ASCC
Arkansas State Law (ACA 20-8-206) requires that public and private health care, physicians, and social agencies shall report any individuals with spinal cord disabilities (SCI/D) to the ASCC within five (5) calendar days after identification.

MEDICAL ELIGIBILITY
Referrals must have a diagnosis with damage to the spinal cord and meet three of the following specific medical eligibility criteria:

- Paralysis
- Sensory loss
- Loss of normal bowel control
- Loss of normal bladder control

ASCC BOARD
The commission is governed by a five-member board appointed by the Governor of the State of Arkansas. Commission members must have a spinal cord disability (SCI/D); have an immediate family member with a spinal cord disability; or have special knowledge of and experience with spinal cord disabilities.

OUR MISSION
ASCC will administer a statewide program to identify and meet the unique and lifelong needs of people with spinal cord disabilities in Arkansas.

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CASE MANAGEMENT

Damage to the spinal cord does not stop with the initial onset. It will likely have a lasting impact on most aspects of daily living and ongoing health. ASCC case managers are qualified rehabilitation counselors who are knowledgeable in the medical aspects of spinal cord injuries, spina bifida, multiple sclerosis, and many other diseases of the spinal cord.

Case managers have the experience and skills in navigating the often complex maze of services and programs that may be available. Our case managers also advocate for management and implementation of ongoing support.

As the single point-of-contact for all involved, including medical professionals and family members, ASCC’s dedicated staff ensures that the client’s needs for independent living are met and implemented.

SPINAL CORD INJURY/DISABILITY (SCI/D)

Spinal cord disabilities (SCI/D) occur when the spinal cord sustains damage or trauma that results in reduced mobility and/or feeling, and results in a change to normal motor, sensory, or autonomic function. Most common causes result from motor vehicle crashes, falls, sporting injuries, and violence.

Spinal cord disabilities can also be non-traumatic and occur as a result of a birth defect such as spina bifida or a disease process such as multiple sclerosis or ALS.

WHAT WE DO

ASCC plays an integral role in client independence and community reintegration. ASCC is the most reliable voice and leading expert on living with spinal cord disabilities in Arkansas. We encourage and support clients to be as independent as possible. We provide services and programs aimed to provide information, resources, education, and support in the adjustment to living with a spinal cord disability.