

Individual Budget vs. the Spending Plan

As individuals begin participation in the Self Determination Program (SDP,) it is important for those individuals, and those who support them, to know the difference between the Individual Budget and the Spending Plan.

Individual Budget: This is the total amount of Regional Center (RC) funds available to the SDP participant each year. It is determined based on the prior 12 months of all RC expenditures. Adjustments to this amount can be made based on needs, circumstances, or resources. The RC certifies the budget. Certification means that the budget amount would have been spent on services for the individual regardless of their participation in SDP.

Spending Plan: Person Centered Planning informs the written Individual Program Plan (IPP.) The Spending Plan details how the Individual Budget funds will be used to purchase services and supports necessary to implement the IPP. The Spending Plan identifies the costs for each service and support purchased with funds from the Individual Budget. The Spending Plan must be attached to the IPP.

Read the DDS directive regarding Individual Budget Development and Spending Plan at

https://www.dds.ca.gov/SDP/docs/IndividualBudget_Jan19.pdf



Statewide SDP Advisory Committee

The Statewide Self Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC) began meeting regularly after the SDP became law in 2013. They recently met in Sacramento to focus on strategic planning for the future. All 21 Local Advisory Committees were represented as the group, guided by the principles of Self-Determination, focused on their statutory responsibilities, as well as their organizational vision and mission, which resulted in their developing specific goals for the upcoming year.

Per the Lanterman Act (4685.8 {x} [2],) the SSDAC is a volunteer committee...” comprised of the chairs of the 21 local advisory committees or their designees. It is the role and responsibility of the SSDAC to “identify self-determination best practices, effective consumer and family training materials, implementation concerns, systemic issues, ways to enhance the program, and recommendations regarding the most effective method for participants to learn of individuals who are available to provide services and supports”as well as to “make recommendations, as appropriate, to increase the program’s effectiveness in furthering the principles of self-determination.” Learn more about the SSDAC at the SCDD website at <https://scdd.ca.gov/ssdac/>

Question of the Day

Q. What are the different types of Financial Management Services (FMS) services and how much does each cost?

A. There are three different models of FMS: Bill Payer, Sole Employer, and Co-Employer. The FMS may charge different rates based upon the number of services funded from your individual budget as a part of your IPP. For information regarding how much the FMS will charge for services, please visit: www.dds.ca.gov/SDP/docs/FMSRates.pdf.

WANT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SELF -DETERMINATION?

- ◆ Visit the Self-Determination Page of the DDS website at <https://www.dds.ca.gov/SDP/>
- ◆ Attend a Self-Determination Local Advisory Committee Meeting, contact your Regional Center or Local State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) Regional Office