

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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January 23, 2020

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES FINAL RULE: PROVIDER
SELF-ASSESSMENT

Background

The federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued requirements referred to as the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule, which affect services provided to individuals with developmental disabilities through California's regional center system. The HCBS Final Rule focuses on the quality of individuals' experiences and not just the settings where the services are delivered. The Final Rule was developed to ensure that individuals have full access to the benefits of community living and the opportunity to receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate.

The [California Statewide Transition Plan \(STP\)](#) outlines the steps the State will take to be in alignment with the HCBS Final Rule. The first step is to review and evaluate current services, including both non-residential and residential programs. Providers of some regional center services (Enclosure 1) will soon be required to complete a self-assessment to measure their current level of compliance with the HCBS Final Rule, offering a framework for assisting providers with the necessary steps to align their services with the federal requirements. If a provider is not in compliance with all the requirements, there is time to develop a transition plan so the provider can achieve compliance by March 2022, the date by which states have to implement the federal requirements.

Self-Assessment

The self-assessment will be available through an online platform developed by a contracted company, OIG Compliance Now. Both providers and regional centers will have access to the online platform by January 27, 2020. A unique login will be provided to regional center administrators and vendored providers via email from OIG Compliance Now. Although training will be offered on how to complete the self-assessment, providers can begin the assessment upon receiving their login information. If a provider does not receive an email with their login information, they should contact their vendoring regional center.

“Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices”

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Providers will have until March 31, 2020, to complete the self-assessment for each of their vendored services. Providers of any of the services listed in the enclosed document (Enclosure 1), that are designed specifically for groups of individuals with developmental disabilities are required to complete a self-assessment.

Technical assistance on navigating the self-assessment will be available through the online platform. This includes frequently asked questions on how to use the platform, training videos with narrated visuals walking through the platform, as well as pop-up explanations and a way to ask questions throughout the self-assessment. Questions about how to navigate the online platform can be sent to:
HCBShelpdesk@oigcompliancenow.com.

Training

In addition to the technical assistance offered through the online platform, there will be five trainings available throughout the state the week of February 10, 2020. The training will focus on the expectations for completing the assessment, walking through the intent of the questions and strategies to ensure input from individuals served and their families are included throughout. Gaining input on the experiences of individuals about the services they receive is paramount in aligning services provided in California with the HCBS Final Rule. Any individuals, community-based organizations, etc. who want to share information about the Final Rule and the assessment process within their communities are encouraged to attend.

This training, available both in-person and web-based, is open to anyone interested in learning more about the self-assessment. Registration information is provided in the enclosed flyer (Enclosure 2), and the Department requests your assistance in sharing this information broadly with all stakeholders, including but not limited to individuals and family members receiving regional center services, providers, and community-based organizations.

Materials and recorded webinar and/or presentations will be posted on the Department's website at <https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/cms-hcbs-regulations/>.

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If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact hcbsregs@dds.ca.gov. This letter, and additional information regarding the HCBS Final Rule, can be found at www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/cms-hcbs-regulations/.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

JIM KNIGHT
Deputy Director
Federal Programs Division

Enclosures

cc: Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Community Services Directors
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
Regional Center HCBS Program Evaluators
Association of Regional Center Agencies
State Council on Developmental Disabilities
HCBS Advisory Group
Brian Winfield, Department of Developmental Services
Mike Sakamoto, Department of Developmental Services
LeeAnn Christian, Department of Developmental Services

California Department of Developmental Services
Home and Community-Based Services Final Rule
Provider Assessment List of Services

Providers vendored with a regional center to provide any of the following services, in which the service is designed specifically for groups of individuals with developmental disabilities, are required to complete a self-assessment.

Service Type	Service Code	Service Code Description
Residential	096	Geriatric Facility (Residential Care Facility for the Elderly)
Residential	113	DSS Licensed Specialized Residential Facility (Adult Residential Facilities for Persons with Special Health Care Needs)
Residential	904	Family Home Agency (Adult Family Home, Certified Family Home, Family Teaching Home)
Residential	905, 915	Adult Residential Facility
Residential	910, 920	Children's Residential Facility; Group Home; Foster Family Home; Small Family Home
Day Program	028	Socialization Training Program
Day Program	055	Community Integration Training Program
Day Program	063	Community Activities Support Services
Day Program	475	Participant-Directed Community-Based Training Service for Adults (Community-Based Training Provider)
Day Program	505	Activity Center
Day Program	510	Adult Development Center
Day Program	515	Behavior Management Program
Day Program	855	Adult Day Care (Adult Day Care Facility)
Employment	950	Supported Employment Program-Group Services
Employment	954	Work Activity Program

California Department of Developmental Services presents the Federal Home and Community-Based Services Settings Self-Assessment Trainings

The California Department of Developmental Services, in partnership with Public Consulting Group, is offering training opportunities on the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Self-Assessment Process.

All five trainings will be available in-person and with webinar access, and will provide stakeholders with information and support while taking part in the Self-Assessment Process. Each training will review the same material.



HCBS Settings Final Rule | Self-Assessment Training

This training will focus on the expectation for completing the required self-assessment, walking through the intent of the questions, and strategies to ensure input from individuals served and their families are included throughout.

Any individuals, community-based organizations, etc. who want to share information about the Final Rule and the assessment process within their communities are encouraged to attend.

<p>Monday, February 10 12:30pm - 4:30pm Alta California Regional Center 2241 Harvard Street, #100 Sacramento, CA 95815 Webinar Access: http://bit.ly/Feb10Training</p>	<p>Tuesday, February 11 9am - 1pm Central Valley Regional Center 4615 N. Marty Avenue Fresno, CA 93722 Webinar Access: http://bit.ly/Feb11Training</p>	<p>Wednesday, February 12 12:30pm - 4:30pm San Andreas Regional Center 6203 San Ignacio Ave, #200 San Jose, CA 95119 Webinar Access: http://bit.ly/Feb12Training</p>
<p>Thursday, February 13 12:30pm - 4:30pm San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center 75 Rancho Camino Drive Pomona, CA 91766 Webinar Access: http://bit.ly/Feb13Training</p>	<p>Friday, February 14 9am - 1pm South Central Los Angeles Regional Center 2500 S. Western Ave Los Angeles, CA 90018 Webinar Access: http://bit.ly/Feb14Training</p>	

Please follow this link to reserve your seat for any of the above listed locations:
<https://caddstraining.eventbrite.com>

Anyone interested in learning about this Self-Assessment process is welcome to register and attend the trainings, at no cost to training participants. For questions about this training series, registration assistance, or to request needed accommodation during the training, please email CADDSHCBS@pcgus.com.

