

March 25, 2020

Important notice from the Department of Developmental Services about Rule Changes for Eligibility, In-Home Respite Workers and Fees

What to know

We want to provide you with the greatest flexibility to receive services and supports.

During the COVID-19 outbreak we want to make sure you stay healthy and receive the services you need.

What's changing

Lanterman Act Eligibility:

If you are seeking regional center services, the regional center will use alternative ways to determine if you are eligible.

- The regional center can conduct meetings by phone or video. If they do, the regional center will mail you a letter confirming this.
- If the regional center thinks you may be eligible, but they are not certain at this time, they can presume you are eligible and provide services to you until they are able to do a complete assessment later.

In-Home Respite Workers:

- Your In-Home Respite Workers are not required to have CPR or First Aid Training if you do not have chronic or presenting health concerns.
- This is being done to increase the number of staff that are available to support you.

Family Cost Participation Program & Annual Family Program Fee:

- Families do not need to pay costs or fees for certain programs during the COVID-19 crisis.
- This will help lessen financial concerns for some families.

Questions?

Please contact your local regional center. If they cannot help you, please email DDSC19@dds.ca.gov.

Learn more

See the Department notice about Governor Gavin Newsom's declared State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Link to full text of the Department of Developmental Services directive:
[Guidance for Eligibility, In-Home Respite Workers and Family Fees](#)