

Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Rules DEPARTMENT FUNDING GUIDANCE

The Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) rules ensure that people with disabilities have full access to, and enjoy the benefits of, community living through long-term services and supports in the most integrated settings of their choosing. In order to assist in determining eligibility for compliance funding, providers must complete this evaluation. Both “Yes” and “No” answers require an explanation. A “No” response *could* mean a service setting is out of compliance with the HCBS rules and is potentially eligible for funding to make necessary adjustments. Once this evaluation is completed, it should act as a guide for filling out the provider compliance funding concept, which is required for any provider to be eligible for compliance funding. **Completion of this evaluation is for the sole purpose of applying for compliance funding and does not take the place of future provider assessments that the Department may require to determine provider compliance with the HCBS settings rules. Only providers requesting compliance funding need to complete this evaluation.**

Federal Requirements #1-5 apply to providers of all services, including residential and non-residential settings. Federal Requirements #6-10 are additional requirements that apply only to provider-owned or controlled residential settings.

The column labeled “Guidance” contains a series of questions intended to help identify compliance or non-compliance with each requirement as it relates to the HCBS rules. While responses to these questions can help in the determination of whether or not a particular requirement is met, these responses may not be the sole factor in this determination.

More information on the HCBS rules and this form can be found at <https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/cms-hcbs-regulations/>.

Questions may be directed to HCBSregs@dds.ca.gov.

Date(s) of Evaluation: 2/5/2021	Completed by: Mary Ann Hagstrom
Vendor Name, Address, Contact: Arc Taft 204 Van Buren St Taft, CA 9326	
Vendor Number: H58444	
Service Type and Code: Activity Center 505	

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<p><u>Federal Requirement #1:</u> <i>The setting is integrated in, and supports full access of individuals receiving Medicaid HCBS to the greater community, including opportunities to seek employment and work in competitive integrated settings, engage in community life, control personal resources, and receive services in the community, to the same degree of access as individuals not receiving Medicaid HCBS.</i></p>	<p><u>Guidance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do individuals receive services in the community based on their needs, preferences and abilities? • Does the individual participate in outings and activities in the community as part of his or her plan for services? • If an individual wants to seek paid employment, does the home staff refer the individual to the appropriate community agency/resource? • Do individuals have the option to control their personal resources, as appropriate?
<p>Does the service and/or program meet this requirement? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Please explain: Services to the individuals we support are based on staff/client ratios, a structured window of daily time as set forth in the approved program design, and staff/transportation availability. Onsite vocational training is available. None that currently meet the expressed desires of the individuals we support. We have made progress with increasing program activity choices based on client needs, preferences, and abilities. We provide service in a rural area which further limits local resources and variety. The individuals we support, including their circle of support members, have indicated that they would like to have increased community options. Not only in our local community but to include outlying areas and a major city 45 miles southeast of us. They would like increased vocational training that would include the opportunity to explore different vocational fields.</p>	
<p><u>Federal Requirement #2:</u> <i>The setting is selected by the individual from among setting options, including non-disability-specific settings and an option for a private unit in a residential setting. The setting options are identified and documented in the person-centered service plan and are based on the individual's needs, preferences, and, for residential settings, resources available for room and board.</i></p>	<p><u>Guidance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the provider have a current regional center Individual Program Plan (IPP) on file for all individuals? • Does each individual's IPP document the different setting options that were considered prior to selecting this setting?
<p>Does the service and/or program meet this requirement? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Please explain: The Regional Center does not list the different options discussed prior to an individual choosing our agency.</p>	
<p><u>Federal Requirement #3:</u></p>	<p><u>Guidance:</u></p>

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<p><i>Ensures an individual's rights of privacy, dignity and respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the provider inform individuals, in a manner they can understand, of their rights to privacy, dignity, respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint? • Does the provider communicate, both verbally and in writing, in a manner that ensures privacy and confidentiality? • Do staff communicate with individuals based on their needs and preferences, including alternative methods of communication where needed (e.g., assistive technology, Braille, large font print, sign language, participants' language, etc.)?
<p>Does the service and/or program meet this requirement? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Please explain: Many of the individuals we support have expressed a desire to receive training for Individual Electronic Devices. Only a few have the ability to purchase those items and the cost of connectivity is prohibitive. Program participants would also like to have the option of attending classes on Facebook Live, YouTube, and Zoom. Because of COVID their awareness of these methods of communication, instruction, and entertainment has been enhanced. In addition to increased instructional opportunities this would increase their ability to connect with each other outside of program hours.</p>	
<p><u>Federal Requirement #4:</u> <i>Optimizes but does not regiment individual initiative, autonomy, and independence in making life choices, including, but not limited to, daily activities, physical environment, and with whom to interact.</i></p>	<p><u>Guidance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the provider offer daily activities that are based on the individual's needs and preferences? • Does the provider structure their support so that the individual is able to interact with individuals they choose to interact with, both at home and in community settings? • Does the provider structure their support so that the individual is able to participate in activities that interest them and correspond with their IPP goals?
<p>Does the service and/or program meet this requirement? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Please explain: While we have made strides to increase individual choice for program offerings, due to limitations of transportation, client/staff ratio requirements</p>	

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(1:6), and lack of staff availability to develop community options our program offerings are still developed based on majority needs and preferences. Not everyone can participate in an activity, with peers of their choosing, if additional staff is not available. Every effort is made to arrange schedules to accommodate a majority of individual choices/needs/preferences. Options available within our community are limited as well. To address more of their desired preferences would require travel outside our immediate community. It would involve being able to provide more options to fewer individuals. Currently we can only provide a service for the most common choices.

Federal Requirement #5:

Facilitates individual choice regarding services and supports, and who provides them.

Guidance:

- Does the provider support individuals in choosing which staff provide their care to the extent that alternative staff are available?
- Do individuals have opportunities to modify their services and/or voice their concerns outside of the scheduled review of services?

Does the service and/or program meet this requirement? **Yes** **No**

Please explain: While staffing availability and ratios create a barrier if a program participant expresses a staff preference for a program activity they are assigned to that staff. Unfortunately, sometimes, this means they might not be with all their preferred peers.

Federal Requirement #6:

The unit or dwelling is a specific physical place that can be owned, rented or occupied under a legally enforceable agreement by the individual receiving services, and the individual has, at a minimum, the same responsibilities and protections from eviction that tenants have under the landlord/tenant law of the State, county, city or other designated entity. For settings in which landlord/tenant laws do not apply, the State must ensure that a lease, residency agreement or other form of written agreement will be in place for each participant and that the document provides protections that address eviction processes and appeals

Guidance:

- As applicable, does each individual have a lease, residency agreement, admission agreement, or other form of written residency agreement?
- Are individuals informed about how to relocate and request new housing?

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<i>comparable to those provided under the jurisdiction's landlord/tenant law.</i>	
<p>Does the service and/or program meet this requirement? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Please explain: Does not apply</p>	
<p><u>Federal Requirement #7:</u> <i>Each individual has privacy in his/her sleeping or living unit: Units have entrance doors lockable by the individual, with only appropriate staff having keys to doors as needed. Individuals sharing units have a choice of roommates in that setting. Individuals have the freedom to furnish and decorate their sleeping or living units within the lease or other agreement.</i></p>	<p><u>Guidance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do individuals have a choice regarding roommates or private accommodations? • Do individuals have the option of furnishing and decorating their sleeping or living units with their own personal items, in a manner that is based on their preferences? • Do individuals have the ability to lock their bedroom doors when they choose?
<p>Does the service and/or program meet this requirement? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Please explain: Does not apply</p>	
<p><u>Federal Requirement #8:</u> <i>Individuals have the freedom and support to control their own schedules and activities, and have access to food at any time.</i></p>	<p><u>Guidance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do individuals have access to food at any time? • Does the home allow individuals to set their own daily schedules? • Do individuals have full access to typical facilities in a home such as a kitchen, dining area, laundry, and comfortable seating in shared areas?
<p>Does the service and/or program meet this requirement? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Please explain: Does not apply</p>	
<p><u>Federal Requirement #9:</u> <i>Individuals are able to have visitors of their choosing at any time.</i></p>	<p><u>Guidance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are visitors welcome to visit the home at any time? • Can individuals go with visitors outside the home; such as for a meal or shopping, or for a longer visit outside the home, such as for holidays or weekends?
<p>Does the service and/or program meet this requirement? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>Please explain: Does not apply</p>	

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<p><u>Federal Requirement #10:</u> <i>The setting is physically accessible to the individual.</i></p>	<p><u>Guidance:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do individuals have the freedom to move about inside and outside the home or are they primarily restricted to one room or area? • Are grab bars, seats in bathrooms, ramps for wheelchairs, etc., available so that individuals who need those supports can move about the setting as they choose? • Are appliances and furniture accessible to every individual?
<p>Does the service and/or program meet this requirement? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Please explain: Does not apply</p>	

CONTACT INFORMATION

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

By checking the box below, I acknowledge that completion of this evaluation is for the sole purpose of applying for compliance funding and does not take the place of future provider assessments that the Department may require to determine provider compliance with the HCBS settings rules.

I AGREE

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Regional center vendors may receive funding to make changes to service settings and/or programs to help them come into compliance with the HCBS rules. To be considered for funding, vendors must complete and submit this form and the provider compliance evaluation form as one packet to the regional center with which it has primary vendorization.

Instructions:

- The concept form on the next page must be used, may not exceed four pages plus the budget worksheet and any cost backup, and must be kept in Arial 12-point font. Submit the form in Microsoft Word or PDF format. An extra half page is permitted to answer questions about prior funding.
- Using a form from previous years will negatively impact a concept score, so please ensure the current FY 20-21 form is used.
- For providers that operate programs with several vendor numbers involved in one concept, one evaluation and concept form should be submitted and should list all vendor numbers for related/included programs. If multiple programs owned by the same parent company have different compliance evaluations or concepts, additional applications can be submitted but should be attached in the same document as the other owned programs so they can be reviewed together.
- The results of the evaluation should be clearly laid out in the section referring to identification of federal requirements that are currently out of compliance, which the concept will address.
- The concept form includes detailed information that describes the funding requests and supports how the requests will assist the provider to come into compliance.
- There should be a clear link between what is being requested and the federal requirement currently out of compliance.
- Concepts should demonstrate how the requested change in service delivery will impact individuals in offering more choices and opportunities.

Strengths of previously funded concepts:

- Identified the need as well as proposed a plan to provide outreach and information regarding the HCBS rules to individuals served and members of their support teams.
- Discussed the need for additional funds to effectively support individuals served on a more individualized basis in overcoming barriers to community integration and employment, as appropriate.
- Prioritized the preferences of individuals served and utilized their feedback in the development of the concept.
- Implemented a sustainable plan for person-centered planning/thinking and training regarding the HCBS rules.
- Enabled residents to age in place and exercise more choice and independence.

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Vendor name	Arc Taft
Vendor number(s)	H58444
Primary regional center	Kern
Service type(s)	Adult Activity Center
Service code(s)	505
Number of consumers typically and currently served	23
Typical and current staff-to-consumer ratio	1:6
<p>1. Please provide a brief description of the service/setting. Include what a typical day consists of during regular program as well as how services are currently being provided. This response must include the baseline/current levels for any aspects of the program for which the concept proposes funding.</p>	
<p>Individuals meet in a congregate setting M-F 8-2. The day is scheduled with a social hour each morning. Three hours per day individuals have a choice between two program options per each hour. Every quarter, as a group, program choices are made based on majority vote. For one hours everyone meets for lunch in the main room of the facility. Individuals bring their lunch to program. The last hour of each day everyone meets in the main room for a daily recap, discussion of the next days plans, and preparation for going home. A room has been redesigned as the lounge area for anyone who chooses not to participate in a program activity but wants to be on site. At least one activity each day is in a community setting. Currently we are addressing IPP goals via remote services. Staff are meeting with individuals at their homes. A table/chair are set up outside for the individual to work at while the staff maintains social distancing and provides guidance and/or instruction. An activity calendar is sent home with activity suggestions for individuals to complete. Supplies are delivered by staff and instruction is offered in person or via communicative devices for the few who have that option: assembly of a homemade bird feeder, make and mail a card, Winter Olympics, Chinese New Year craft, etc.</p>	
<p>Project Narrative Description: While filling out this section, reflect on how services are typically provided and how that might have changed in the past year. Think about what has been learned in the past year and how that might shape services going forward. Funding awarded through this concept can span the course of up to two years which would allow time to shape services to be more person-centered and align with the HCBS federal requirements.</p>	
<p>2. Please provide a brief summary narrative of the concept for which you are requesting funding, including justification for the funding.</p>	
<p>Eliminate rigid program hours and offer services based on availability of client choices and needs. This would also allow us to tailor activities to each individual's needs, choice, and preference rather than a group mentality. We would like to offer lunchtime community choices. The employment of a Community Based Services Coordinator would increase community accessibility, implement new curriculum for greater independence and increased program activities based on the preferences, choices, and needs of those we support. Based on input from program individuals</p>	

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<p>activities could include: volunteerism, community involvement for advocacy (attending city council meetings and representation in/at service clubs), participation in community events (plays, car shows, concerts, fundraisers, etc), increased community partnerships with local businesses for vocational training and possible paid employment. To further enhance the opportunities for community activities, client choice in activities, and peer interaction we would like to create a part time position for a Community Activities Provider. Adding the Community Activities Provider position would provide the Community Based Services Coordinator additional time to develop community partnerships focused on vocational training and placement. The purchase of a mini-van would also increase access to community and vocational options.</p>
<p>3. Identify which HCBS federal requirements this concept addresses that are currently out of compliance. Could be all or a subset of those identified as out of compliance on the evaluation.</p>
<p>1__X_ 2__ 3_X_ 4_X_ 5__ 6__ 7__ 8__ 9__ 10__</p>
<p>4. For each HCBS out-of-compliance federal requirement that is being addressed by this concept, describe the barriers to compliance and why this concept is necessary. If this information is in the evaluation section, please copy it here.</p>
<p>We are addressing #1, #3, and #4. Due to a lack of community partners, DSP and program participant mind sets on traditional, on site activities and vocational options, a ridged program schedule and ratios, our community integration is limited. Technology is the future. At this time we lack the funds to integrate that aspect into our services. We need to expand the mind set of all individuals connected to the program to one of participant driven dreams becoming realities.</p>
<p>5. For each out-of-compliance federal requirement that is addressed in this concept, please explain how the concept will bring the vendor into compliance by March 2023.</p>
<p>We will have increased access to resources for employment and community inclusion. Documentation will be accessible and reflect Person Center Plans and a wide variety of participant driven opportunities.</p>
<p>6. What are the proposed outcomes and objectives of the concept, and what are the methods of achieving and tracking them?</p>
<p>PCT training for at least 5 additional DSPs. CIE and PIP programs in place with at least 25% of individuals choosing community employment placed in paying jobs of their choice, not just because it's the only job available. 100% of individuals desiring a personal electronic device to have one and to have the skills to use the device to the best of their ability. A community based, participant choice driven daily program for those choosing to be in the community. For those choosing the traditional on-site services an enhanced program that allows for individual choice of instruction and activity.</p>
<p>7. Please describe how and/or what was done to include input from the individuals served in developing this concept? Discuss not only the development of the concept, but also what steps were taken to identify the interests and desires of the individuals and who was involved in that process.</p>

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In our desire to re-invent our program to reflect the wants, needs, and preferences of the individuals we support we dedicated a month to survey program participants. To increase our efforts to provide services that were wanted and preferred but also needed we asked our individuals to include any members of their circle of support they felt could add to their “wish list”. The surveys were conducted in person, socially distanced, via mail, and telephone calls. Staff that had received PCT training from our last grant completed “What’s Important To and For” and “2-minute drills” with our individuals and, if desired, with their circle of support input. 100% of our individuals stated they wanted the opportunity to meet at the facility for socialization. The newest member to our program has attended for 5 years. The majority of our participants have attended our program for over 15 years. 75% were clear that want more community outings and involvement. 25% expressed interest in community paid employment.

8. Please describe how the concept you propose will enable you to provide more person-centered services to your clients.

It is my belief that with increased community partners our individuals could explore a greater variety of job options and their interest in community employment would increase. With the new relationships it would also increase our ability to provide community based services reflecting the desires of our program participants. By designing our program with inclusiveness in mind, and becoming participant driven, we will be able to provide services to promote a life for each of the individuals we support that is self-directed and fully integrated into as many real life community settings as possible.

9. Please address your plan for maintaining the benefits, value, and success of your project at the conclusion of 2020-21 HCBS Funding.

With the development of community partners and relationships, with workshops and trainings to reimagine services from traditional, site-based to anything is possible, our program will truly become Person Centered driven.

10. Write a brief narrative below explaining each major cost category and timeline. Complete the budget template at the end of the concept sheet. An excel version with formulas is available. When applicable, budgets should include personnel/benefits, operating costs such as consultants or training, administrative expenses/indirect costs, and capital costs (assets lasting more than 2 years). If project spans 2 years or occurs in phases, budget should be separated by phase/year.

Administrative costs, if any, must comply with DDS’ vendor requirements, including a cap of 15% of the sum of personnel/benefits, consulting, and operating costs (must exclude capital costs). This information can be found at this [link](#).

We are requesting funding for the position of a Community Based Service Coordinator. This will be a full time position with benefits. Salary/benefit cost of \$41,360 for year one, \$42,400 for year two. Funding for an additional, part time DSP position would create additional staffing and choice for community activities. Salary cost for this position, for both years, would be \$31,200. Startup cost for TherAp is estimated for \$10,000, with an annual fee of \$5000. A used van for community/vocational transportation would be purchased within 6 months with an estimated cost of \$40,000. Purchase of 10 laptops with connective devices for first

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<p>year \$9600. Purchasing an additional 10 laptops with connective devices during second year would be another \$9600.</p>	
<p>11. Please address sustainability of funding sources for all programs or concepts requiring any funding past the timeframe of the requested funding, especially those that involve staff or other long-term costs. Please mark "not applicable" if costs will all be incurred during the program timeframe; up to two years.</p>	
<p>The cost of the Community Based Service Coordinator will be budgeted into our operation budget. It will be offset by the development of CIE and PIP programs that position will also oversee. With the assistance of grant funding for Ther-Ap or a similar program the annual maintenance cost will be budgeted into the operations budget. The increased costs for transportation and program activity fees will be budgeted and raised through fundraisers.</p>	
<p>12. Have you or the organization you work with been a past recipient of DDS funding? If yes, what fiscal year(s)?</p>	<p>HCBS Funding ___ No ___ X ___ Yes. If Yes, FY(s) ___ 2017-18 _____</p> <p>Disparity Funding ___ No ___ Yes. If Yes, FY(s) _____</p> <p>CPP Funding ___ No ___ Yes. If Yes, FY(s) _____</p> <p>CRDP Funding ___ No ___ Yes. If Yes, FY(s) _____</p> <p>If yes to any question be sure to answer questions 13 and 14.</p>
<p>For providers who have received prior HCBS, Disparity, CPP or CRDP Funding from DDS</p>	
<p>13. If your organization has received prior funding from any of the above sources, please provide an update on the prior funding project. You may copy and paste from progress update(s) previously provided to regional centers or DDS.</p>	
<p>Our prior funding was to provide PCT training to staff. We were able to provide training to 13 out of 24 staff.</p>	
<p>14. If your organization received prior funding, please explain how the current funding request is not redundant with any prior funding received and/or builds on the prior funding but was not part of the original funding.</p>	
<p>This grant request is focused on reimaging traditional Day Services. DSPs and the individuals we support need training and supports to become a participant driven program. To provide each individual the support they need and choose rather than what the program can offer.</p>	

HCBS CONCEPT BUDGET	198,600
Vendor Name	Arc Taft
Vendor Number(s)	H58444

	Year 1 Budget			Year 2 Budget			Total
	Wage and Benefits	FTE	Annual Cost	FTE	Annual Cost	Cost	
Personnel (wage + benefits)							
Community Based Services Coordinator	41360	1.00	\$ 41,360	1.00	\$ 42,400	\$ 83,760	
DSP	31200	0.50	\$ 15,600	0.50	\$ 15,600	\$ 31,200	
Position Description					\$ -	#VALUE!	
Position Description			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	
Position Description			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	
Position Description			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	
Position Description			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	
Position Description			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	
Position Description			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	
Personnel Subtotal			\$ 56,960		\$ 58,000	#VALUE!	
Operating expenses							
telephone			\$ 360		\$ 360	\$ 720	
training			\$ 1,200		\$ 600	\$ 1,800	
mileage			\$ 2,400		\$ 2,400	\$ 4,800	
electronic record keeping			\$ 10,000		\$ 5,000	\$ 15,000	
connective devices-monthly fee			\$ 360		\$ 360	\$ 720	
					\$ -	\$ -	
					\$ -	\$ -	
					\$ -	\$ -	
					\$ -	\$ -	
Operating Subtotal			\$ 14,320		\$ 8,720	\$ 23,040	
Administrative Expenses							
					\$ -	\$ -	
					\$ -	\$ -	
					\$ -	\$ -	
					\$ -	\$ -	
					\$ -	\$ -	
					\$ -	\$ -	
					\$ -	\$ -	
Administrative Subtotal			\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	
Capital expenses							
CBSC-laptop			\$ 1,400			\$ 1,400	
Program laptops x 10			\$ 6,000		\$ 6,000	\$ 12,000	
connective devices x 10			\$ 3,600		\$ 3,600	\$ 7,200	
Van			\$ 40,000			\$ 40,000	
					\$ -	\$ -	
					\$ -	\$ -	
					\$ -	\$ -	
					\$ -	\$ -	
Capital Subtotal			\$ 51,000		\$ 9,600	\$ 60,600	
Total Concept Cost			\$ 112,280		\$ 76,320	#VALUE!	

See Attachment F for budget details and restrictions