

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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July 15, 2021

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM: CONSUMER SUPPORTS FOR
TRANSITIONING INTO THE PROGRAM

With the statewide rollout of the Self Determination Program (SDP), the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is providing regional centers with this guidance regarding initial person-centered planning and supports for individuals interested in enrolling or transitioning in SDP.

Until further notice, DDS directives on supports for enrolling into SDP issued on [February 13, 2019](#), [September 3, 2019](#), and [October 30, 2020](#) are still in effect. In addition to supports laid out in these directives, transition supports are also available in the following ways:

- Regional center service coordinators assisting individuals and families with the transition.
- Regional centers working with their Self-Determination Local Volunteer Advisory Committee to arrange for entities to assist with person-centered planning or transition.
- Beginning in fiscal year 2021-22, funding is available for regional centers to employ Participant Choice Specialists to assist with individuals pursuing self-direction through the Self-Determination Program or through use of participant-directed services. More details on these resources are forthcoming.

Additional information on enrolling in SDP and person-centered planning are posted in the DDS webpage <https://www.dds.ca.gov/initiatives/sdp/frequently-asked-questions/>

Consumers, family members, or providers should contact their local regional center with questions regarding this program directive. If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact sdp@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

MARICRIS ACON
Deputy Director

cc: Nancy Bargmann, DDS
Brian Winfield, DDS
Erica Reimer Snell, DDS
Tim Travis, DDS
Regional Center Board Presidents
Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
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“Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices”