

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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September 15, 2022

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: SELF-DETERMINATION PROGRAM: ADJUSTMENTS TO INDIVIDUAL BUDGET

Current statute authorizes rate adjustments for some vendored service providers in certain circumstances including, but not limited to, when there is a change in the state minimum wage and implementation of rate reform pursuant to Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code section 4519.10. This letter provides guidance for adjusting a Self-Determination Program (SDP) participant's individual budget when there are rate adjustments for vendored service providers.

Consistent with W&I Code section 4685.8(m)(1)(A)(ii), which requires regional center certification that expenditures for the individual budget, including any adjustments, would have occurred regardless of the individual's participation in SDP, a participant's individual budget may be adjusted in the following situations:

- Increase in state minimum wage
 - The individual budget may be increased by the amount necessary to bring employee pay into compliance with the increased state minimum wage.
- Change in rates for vendored services included in the individual budget calculation
 - There is an increase or decrease in rates for the vendored providers and/or services associated with the expenditures used in the individual budget calculation.
- Change in rates for a regional center vendored provider, who is also providing SDP services
 - The participant purchases SDP services from a provider who is also a regional center vendored service provider; and
 - The participant and provider have agreed to a rate for SDP services that is equal to (or based on a percentage of) the provider's rate established through their vendorization.

“Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices”

Regional Center Executive Directors
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Consumers and family members should contact their local regional center with questions regarding this letter. Regional centers with questions should contact the Department at sdp@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

BRIAN WINFIELD
Chief Deputy Director

cc: Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
Regional Center Community Services Directors
Association of Regional Center Agencies
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Ernie Cruz, Department of Developmental Services
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