



NANCY BARGMANN  
DIRECTOR

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
**Department of Developmental Services**  
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GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR

October 18, 2023

Jesse Weller, Psy.D., Executive Director  
San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center  
75 Rancho Camino Drive  
Pomona, CA 91766

Dear Dr. Weller:

This letter is to convey the results of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) remote review of the Early Start program at San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center (SG/PRC). This review was conducted through DDS' Self-Assessment Monitoring (SAM) system on January 2, 2023, through February 22, 2023, to ensure that California meets Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requirements.

SG/PRC completed a self-assessment of 79 records through SAM. This consisted of 40 regular records and 39 transition records. DDS verified the documentation and the findings for each of the 79 records. DDS identified finding(s) of noncompliance in the following areas:

- Completion of the Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSP) within 45 days from the date of referral,
- Early Intervention Services are provided in the natural environment,
- Parental consent obtained prior to the provision of Early Intervention Services,
- IFSPs with transition steps and services were completed timely, and
- Timely transition conference.

The details of the findings are in the enclosed monitoring report.

**Required Action:**

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) requires the state lead agency, DDS, to verify correction of noncompliance based on the individual child level (prong 1) and the systemic level (prong 2) as soon as possible, and no later than one year from the date of this letter. A plan, signed by you, addressing the systemic level (prong 2) areas of noncompliance is required to be submitted to DDS within 30 days from the date of this letter. As part of the plan of correction, SG/PRC should identify and address the root cause of noncompliance on each outstanding finding. Identifying the root cause ensures that corrective actions are meaningful and effective. Please forward the required evidence of clearance on each of the outstanding

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individual findings (prong 1) as soon as it is available (if applicable). DDS will require SG/PRC to provide subsequent records to clear the systemic level findings. In addition, please see recommendations listed on page 5 of the monitoring report.

Thank you for your cooperation during the monitoring review of the Early Start program at SG/PRC and your commitment to serve children and families. If you have any questions, please contact Nathaniel Taleon, Chief, Part C Federal Reporting and Monitoring Section, at (951) 374-0174, or by email at [Nathaniel.Taleon@dds.ca.gov](mailto:Nathaniel.Taleon@dds.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Original signed by

MARICRIS ACON  
Deputy Director  
Children, Adolescents, and Young Adult Services Division

Enclosure

cc: Julie Chetney, SG/PRC Board President  
Lupe Magallanes, SG/PRC  
Susana Barrera, SG/PRC

**EARLY START MONITORING REPORT SUMMARY  
SAN GABRIEL/POMONA REGIONAL CENTER**

DATE OF REVIEW: JAN. 6 – FEB. 22, 2023  
FINAL REPORT DATE: OCTOBER 18, 2023

ITEMS AT 100% COMPLIANCE				
REQUIREMENT		RECORDS IN COMPLIANCE	TOTAL RECORDS REVIEWED	COMPLIANCE PERCENTAGE
R1	Obtained written parental consent for evaluation/assessment.  34 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Sections 303.7 and 303.420(a)(1) and (a)(2)	40	40	100%
R2	Initial evaluation determined the infant's or toddler's level of functioning in all five developmental domains, including hearing, vision, and health.  34 CFR, Sections 303.21, 303.24, 303.310 and 303.321	40	40	100%
R3	Initial assessment for service planning identified unique strengths and service needs in all five developmental domains, including hearing, vision, and health, prior to the initial Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP).  34 CFR, Sections 303.21, 303.24, 303.310 and 303.321	40	40	100%
R4	Written notice of the IFSP meeting.  34 CFR, Section 303.342(d)(2)	40	40	100%
R7	The IFSP included the frequency and length for all early intervention services.  34 CFR, Section 303.344(d)(1)(i)	40	40	100%

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**CLEARED FINDINGS**

Findings cleared prior to the issuance of the report. No further action is required.

REQUIREMENT		ORIGINAL RECORDS IN COMPLIANCE	TOTAL RECORDS REVIEWED	ORIGINAL COMPLIANCE PERCENTAGE	SUBSEQUENT RECORDS IN COMPLIANCE	TOTAL SUBSEQUENT RECORDS REVIEWED	SUBSEQUENT COMPLIANCE PERCENTAGE
R6	Timely provision of services. 34 CFR, Sections 303.344(f)(1) and 340.420(b)(2) Title 17, California Code of Regulations (CCR), Section 52109(b)	38	40	95.0%	■	■	100%
O2	IFSP includes present levels of child's development in all five domains (including health, hearing, and vision). 34 CFR, Section 303.344(a)	39	40	97.5%	■	■	100%
T2	Timely referral to Local Educational Agency (LEA). 34 CFR, Sections 303.209(b) and 303.401(d)	37	39	94.8%	■	■	100%

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**NONCOMPLIANCE**

San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center must clear findings on both the child-specific and systemic levels. Systemic level findings must be cleared as soon as possible but no later than one year from the final report date. **A Plan of Correction and subsequent review are required to clear these items.**

REQUIREMENT		RECORDS IN COMPLIANCE	TOTAL RECORDS REVIEWED	COMPLIANCE PERCENTAGE	PRONG 1 (CHILD-SPECIFIC)	PRONG 2 (SYSTEMIC)
					OUTSTANDING	OUTSTANDING
R5	Initial IFSP meeting was conducted within the 45-day timeline. 34 CFR, Sections 303.310 and 303.342(a)	34	40	85.0%		X
R8	Early intervention services are provided in the natural environment or the IFSP contains an appropriate justification when services are not provided in a natural environment. 34 CFR, Sections 303.26, 303.126 and 303.344(d)(1)(ii)	32	40	80.0%	X	X
O3	Parental consent was obtained prior to the provision of services. 34 CFR, Section 303.342(e)	32	40	82.5%	X	X
T1	The IFSP included timely transition steps and services. 34 CFR, Sections 303.209(d) & (e) and 303.344(h)	38	39	97.4%		X
T3	Transition Conference occurred in a timely manner and the LEA was invited to the transition meeting. 34 CFR, Section 303.209(c)(1)	37	39	94.8%		X

Key:

R – “Regular” corresponds to the Regular Review Tool item, followed by the number of the Regular Review Tool item (ex.- R1 refers to the Regular Review Tool item number 1).

T – “Transition” corresponds to the Transition Review Tool item, followed by the number of the Transition Review Tool item (ex.- T3 refers to the Transition Review Tool item number 3).

O – “Other” refers to an additional finding, not included in the Regular or Transition review tools.

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**OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL FINDINGS (PRONG 1)**

RR #	UCI	ITEM R8 Natural Environment	OTHER 3 Consent for Services
7	████████	X	
11	████████		X
14	████████	X	
16	████████	X	
33	████████	X	
36	████████	X	

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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

During the monitoring review, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) reviewed multiple records where:

- Initial IFSP meeting was not completed within 45-days from the initial referral,
- Services were being provided outside of the child's natural environment,
- Written consent for services was not obtained.

Considering what is outlined above, DDS recommends SG/PRC to align practices/procedures related to:

- Timely initial IFSP,
- Natural environment,
- Written parental consent for provision of services.

As required by 34 CFR, Sections 303.310, 303.342(a), 303.26, 303.126, 303.344(d)(1)(ii), 303.344(f)(1), 340.420(b)(2), and Title 17, California Code of Regulations, Section 52109(b)