

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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TTY: 711
(833) 421-0061



January 17, 2023

Dexter Henderson, Executive Director
South Central Los Angeles Regional Center
2500 South Western Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90018

Dear Mr. Henderson:

This letter is to convey the results of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) remote review of South Central Los Angeles Regional Center's (SCLARC) Early Start program. This review was conducted through DDS' Self-Assessment Monitoring (SAM) system September 30, 2022, through November 16, 2022, to ensure that California meets Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act requirements.

SCLARC completed a self-assessment of 90 records through SAM. This consisted of 45 regular records and 45 transition records. Of note, SCLARC achieved 100 percent compliance in the following areas: conducting evaluations in all developmental domains, written notice of the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP), timely IFSP, timely provision of services, IFSP includes the frequency and length of services, services provided in the natural environment, parental consent was obtained prior to the provision of services, IFSP includes timely transition steps and services, timely referral to the Local Education Agency (LEA), and timely transition conference. The details of the monitoring review findings are in the enclosed monitoring report.

Required Action:

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs 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, SCLARC 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 individual findings (prong 1) as soon as it is available (if applicable). DDS will require SCLARC to provide subsequent records to clear the systemic level findings. In addition, please see recommendations listed on page 5 of the monitoring report.

"Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices"

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Thank you for your cooperation during the monitoring review of SCLARC's Early Start program and your commitment to serve children and families. If you have any questions, please contact Nathaniel Taleon, Chief, Federal Programs Monitoring Section, at (951) 374-0174, or by email at nathaniel.taleon@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:

ERIN PAULSEN BRADY
Acting Deputy Director
Federal Programs Division

Enclosure

cc: Jesus Murillo, SCLARC
Maricel Cruzat, SCLARC

**EARLY START MONITORING REPORT SUMMARY
SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER**

DATE OF REVIEW: SEPTEMBER 30- NOVEMBER 16, 2022
FINAL REPORT DATE: JANUARY 17, 2023

ITEMS AT 100% COMPLIANCE				
REQUIREMENT	RECORDS IN COMPLIANCE	TOTAL RECORDS REVIEWED	COMPLIANCE PERCENTAGE	
R2	Initial evaluation determined the infant's or toddler's level of functioning in all five developmental domains, including hearing, vision, and health. 34 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), §§303.21, 303.24, 303.310 and §303.321	45	45	100%
R4	Written notice of the Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP). 34 CFR, §303.342(d)(2)	45	45	100%
R5	Initial IFSP meeting was conducted within the 45-day timeline. 34 CFR, §§303.310 and 303.342(a)	45	45	100%
R7	The IFSP included the frequency and length for all early intervention services. 34 CFR, §303.344(d)(1)(i)	45	45	100%
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, §§303.26, 303.126 and 303.344(d)(1)(ii)	45	45	100%
T1	The IFSP included timely transition steps and services. 34 CFR, §§303.209(d) & (e) and 303.344(h)	45	45	100%
T3	Transition Conference occurred in a timely manner and the Local Education Agency (LEA) was invited to the transition meeting. 34 CFR, §303.209(c)(1)	45	45	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, §§303.344(f)(1) and 340.420(b)(2) Title 17, California Code of Regulations, §52109(b)	44	45	97.8%	■	■	100%
T2	Timely referral to LEA. 34 CFR, §§303.209(b) and 303.401(d)	43	45	95.6%	■	■	100%
O3	Parental consent was obtained prior to the provision of services. 34 CFR, §303.342(e)	44	45	97.8%	■	■	100%

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NONCOMPLIANCE

South Central Los Angeles 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
R1	Obtained written parental consent for evaluation/assessment. 34 CFR, §§303.7 and 303.420(a)(1) and (a)(2)	41	45	91.1%		X
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 IFSP. 34 CFR, §§303.21, 303.24, 303.310 and 303.321	44	45	97.8%	X	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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SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER**

DATE OF REVIEW: SEPTEMBER 30- NOVEMBER 16, 2022
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OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL FINDINGS (PRONG 1)

#	UCI	Item 3 Assessments
18	██████	X

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SOUTH CENTRAL LOS ANGELES REGIONAL CENTER**

DATE OF REVIEW: SEPTEMBER 30- NOVEMBER 16, 2022
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RECOMMENDATIONS

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

- written parental consent, including electronic or digital signature, was not obtained before administering screenings, evaluations, and assessments;
- assessments were conducted after the 45-day timeline.

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

- obtaining written parental consent before administering screenings, evaluations, and assessments; and
- conducting assessments to determine service need before the initial IFSP.

as required by 34 CFR §§303.7, 303.420(a)(1) and (a)(2), 303.344(a), 303.24, 303.310, and 303.321