

# ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR CALIFORNIA REGIONAL CENTER SERVICES

Program	Early Start	Provisional Lanterman	Lanterman
Ages	0-3 years	0-5 years	Any age
Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have a developmental delay of at least 25% in one or more areas of cognitive, communication, social or emotional, adaptive, or physical and motor development including vision and hearing</li> <li>-or-</li> <li>Have an established risk condition of known etiology, with a high probability of resulting in delayed development</li> <li>-or-</li> <li>At high risk of having a substantial developmental disability due to a combination of biomedical risk factors of which are diagnosed by qualified personnel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disability is not solely physical in nature</li> <li>Significant functional limitations in at least 2 major life activities:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-care</li> <li>Receptive and expressive language</li> <li>Learning</li> <li>Mobility</li> <li>Self-direction</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intellectual disability (ID), autism, epilepsy, cerebral palsy, and/or other disability that closely resembles ID and/or individual requires similar services</li> <li>Originates prior to age 18 and is lifelong</li> <li>"Substantial disability" - significant functional limitations in 3 or more areas:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-care</li> <li>Receptive and expressive language</li> <li>Learning</li> <li>Mobility</li> <li>Self-direction</li> <li>Capacity for independent living</li> <li>Economic self-sufficiency</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

The criteria for determining eligibility for infants and toddlers for Early Start services is specified in [Section 95014 of the California Government Code](#). Eligibility criteria for Lanterman Act and Provisional Lanterman Act services are specified in [Sections 4512\(a\)\(1\) and 4512\(a\)\(2\) of the California Welfare and Institutions Code](#).

For more information, contact the Department of Developmental Services at [info@dds.ca.gov](mailto:info@dds.ca.gov) or (833) 421-0061.  
To make a referral for services, find your regional center at <https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/>