

July 14, 2025

D-2025-Case Management-004

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF OUT-OF-STATE SERVICES

The purpose of this letter is to clarify [Welfare and Institutions Code \(WIC\) Section 4519](#) regarding the purchase of out-of-state services as part of an individual program plan (IPP). WIC Section 4519, subdivision (d), states:

“(d) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a), (b), and (c), the State Department of Developmental Services or a regional center may expend funds allocated to it for the purchase of services for residents of this state and administrative costs incurred in providing services in the border areas of a state adjacent to California when the purchase is approved by the regional center director.”

Under WIC Section 4519, subdivision (d), the regional center executive director has the authority to approve the use of purchase of service funds when, as part of an individual's IPP, the individual receives services in the border areas of a state next to California. For example, a camp offered in Nevada may be closer for an individual to access than a camp in Los Angeles. These services would have to be within reasonable proximity to the California border, as WIC Section 4519, subdivision (d), requires the service to be in the “border areas”. As part of the regional center executive director's analysis of whether to approve the purchase of services in border areas, factors such as proximity, cost effectiveness, and the availability of services in-state must be considered.

However, if the service funded in a bordering state is a residential placement, whether short term or long term, the regional center must follow the requirements of WIC Section 4519, subdivisions (a) through (c). The Department of Developmental Services must receive, review and approve a plan for out-of-state services indicated in the individual's IPP, pursuant to WIC Section 4519, subdivisions (a) through (c), in order for state funds to be expended for out of state residential placement. Plans for out-state residential placement and associated funding should be sent to Safetynet@dds.ca.gov.

If you have questions, please contact your regional center's primary liaison, or the Office of Community Operations at (916) 654-1958 or oco@dds.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:

ERNIE CRUZ
Deputy Director, Community Services Division

cc: Regional Center Administrators
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services
Regional Center Community Services Directors
Association of Regional Center Agencies
Chris Gephart, Department of Developmental Services
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