2025-27 Service Access & Equity Grant Bidder's Conference

Monday, October 6, 2025

11:00 AM to 12:00 PM PST

DDS Department of Developmental Services

American Sign Language - Interpretation

- ASL interpreters have been "Spotlighted"

- Live closed captioning is active

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Interpretation 🌐

EN For interpretation in your language, please click on the white globe at the bottom of the screen labeled "interpretation." Next, select your LANGUAGE and select MUTE original audio.

ES Interpretación en español: haga clic en el globo blanco en la parte inferior de la pantalla con la etiqueta "Interpretation." Seleccione su idioma y seleccione "Mute original audio."

中 如需粤语或中文翻译，请在荧幕下方地球仪上面写着 "interpretation" 的图案按一下。从那里，选择您需要的语言。如果您不想听到演讲者的原始语言，您也可以同时选择原始语言静音，"Mute Original Audio"

KO 한국어 통역은 화면 하단에 **"Interpretation"**이라고 적힌 하얀색 지구모양을 누르시고

Korean 을 선택하신 후, 오디오 사운드는 **MUTE**로 하시면 됩니다.

TL Para sa pagsasalin sa inyong wika, mangyaring i-click ang puting globo sa ibaba ng screen na may nakasulat na "interpretation." Susunod, piliin ang inyong LANGUAGE (WIKA) at piliin ang MUTE original audio.

VI Để nghe thuyết trình bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị, vui lòng nhấp vào quả địa cầu màu trắng ở dưới màn hình có ghi chữ "Interpretation". Tiếp theo, chọn NGÔN NGỮ của quý vị và bấm "MUTE original audio"

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Meeting Reminders

REC This meeting is being recorded

Materials will be posted on the DDS SAE website: **https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/disparities/disparity-funds-program/**

Zoom Tips

Turn your Audio and Video on and off

Ask a question for the SAE team

Subtitles of the spoken in-meeting communications

| Audio | Video | Participants 3 | Chat | React | Raise hand | Share | Apps | Interpretation | Q&A | Show captions | More | Leave |

Raise your hand when you want to speak

Listen to your preferred language channel

Leave the meeting

- **Attendee video and microphone will not be available**
- **Utilize the Q&A option to ask questions, they will be answered at the end of the presentation**

- **Features vary based on the version of Zoom and device you are using**
- **Some Zoom features are not available for telephone-only participants**

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California Department of Developmental Services

2025-27 Service Access & Equity Grant Program Bidder's Conference

October 6, 2025

JaRita Pichon, Chief Equity Officer
Shanola Harvey, Access & Equity Division Manager

DDS Department of Developmental Services

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. SAE Grant Program Overview
   - 2025-27 Grant Timeline
   - Preparing to Apply
   - Project Types and Duration
   - 2025-27 Grant Priorities
   - Objectives and Activities
   - Grant Budget
   - Reapplications and Evaluations
   - Online Application and Process
   - Application Resources
3. Questions and Answers Session
4. Closing

SAE Grant Program Overview

Funding to implement strategies to reduce disparities and increase equity in regional center services

- $11M Annual Funding ([WIC 4519.5](#)) with over 500 [grants since 2016](#)
- Annual Guidelines with input from community partners
- Regular check-ins, collaborations, and quarterly reporting
- Grants managed online with ongoing technical support and training for grantees
- Monthly CBO Engagement Meetings

2025-27 Grant Timeline

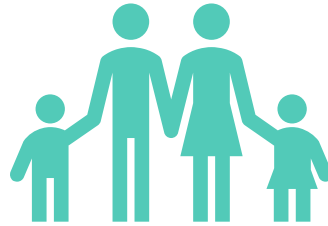| September 29th	October 6th	November 17th	December 2025	January 2026	February 1st
Guidelines Released	Bidders Conference	Proposals Due	Evaluation & Selection Process	Notification of Awards	Projects Begin

*Timeline is subject to change

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Preparing to Apply

❑ Read the 2025-27 Guidelines, Appendices, and FAQs

❑ Review data from Regional Centers and other relevant sources to develop the proposal

❑ Contact the RC(s) you intend to serve to review your project proposal **before** you submit

❑ In GrantVantage:
  ❑ Create an Applicant Profile
  ❑ Upload your documents, **before** you begin the application process
  ❑ Review all SAE attachments

Project Types and Duration

Education and Training

Community Connection

24 Months

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2025-27 Grant Priorities

Statewide Information & Training Initiative
- Up to 2 statewide grantees
- Virtual trainings for families

Increasing Pathways into the System
- Train referral sources
- Reach underrepresented communities

Building Caregiver Networks & Supports
- Focus on diverse caregivers
- Promote family engagement

Service Connection Support for Families
- Peer partner lived-experience & guidance
- **Early Start:** Reduce service disparities

Utilizing Innovative Strategies
- Region-specific, evidence-based approaches
- Address local barriers

Objective and Activities

Grantees must review all requirements in [Attachment B](#)

(1) Each grant has one objective. Examples include:
- Training parents to use technology
- Increasing Early Start enrollment

(2) List project activities to meet the objective. Use Standard Activities when possible:
- Host support groups
- Conduct workshop sessions & collect standard pre/post workshop data

(3) No need to enter measures

Grant Budget

❑ Review Budget Instructions in **Attachment C**

❑ Follow **Budget Details and Restrictions**
  - SAE **will not** fund activities funded by other sources

❑ Complete Budget & Budget Narrative
  - Keep them clear and easy to understand

❑ **One** budget per project, regardless of duration

Reapplications and Evaluation

Eligibility for Renewal Projects

- Applies to projects awarded in **FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25**
- Must **continue the same project** with a **consecutive start date**
- Projects with funds already sufficient to continue into 2026 **are not eligible**

Scoring Criteria

- **Exceptional**: Clear accomplishments, strong impact, solid plan
- **Adequate**: Meets requirements, shows progress, reasonable plan
- **Inadequate**: Lacks progress, impact, or plan

*Note: Projects with **more than 2 "Inadequate" ratings will not be considered***

Timely Application Submission

- ❑ Read the Guidelines, Attachments, and question instructions

- ❑ Report technical errors immediately to the GrantVantage at **applicantsupport@grantvantage.com**

- ❑ Applicants are encouraged to submit at least **one hour** before the 5:00 PM deadline to avoid upload delays

- ❑ GrantVantage **will not** be available to respond to inquiries after 5:00 PM

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Final Steps

❏ After you submit your application in GrantVantage, you will receive an email confirmation from GrantVantage

❏ Download your application which includes:
   1. Application Report
   2. Project Plan (Activities Template)
   3. Budget Report

❏ Email your application to your RC contact listed in **Attachment F**

Application Resources

For SAE Grant Program information, visit:

- **[DDS Service Access & Equity Grant Program](#)**
- **[2025-27 Grant Guidelines](#)**

For Technical Assistance, contact:

- **[Applicantsupport@grantvantage.com](#)**

For questions about the Guidelines, contact:

- **[SAEgrantprogram@dds.ca.gov](#)**

Questions and Answers