

**Department of Developmental Services  
Proposed Trailer Bill Legislation  
Fiscal Year 2026-27**

**Self-Determination Program Administrative Costs Funding  
FACT SHEET**

**1. Proposal:**

This proposal clarifies the intent of current law that the administrative costs associated with the Self-Determination Program (SDP) be the first priority for use of “savings generated by matching federal funds for prior SDP pilot participants.”

**2. Background:**

Welfare and Institutions Code section 4685.8(f) specifies authorized uses of additional federal funds generated by former participants of the Self-Determination Pilot Projects. Current law prioritizes the use of these funds for criminal background checks and other administrative costs associated with program implementation. Additionally, after consultation with stakeholders, any remaining funds could be used to address participants' needs, increase service access and equity, and reduce disparities.

The Department of Developmental Services estimates that approximately \$4 million General Fund annually became available when the program began to access federal matching funds through the SDP waiver. Over the past five fiscal years, the Department of Developmental Services has allocated these funds to regional centers for program administration (\$1.8 million General Fund annually), local volunteer advisory committees (LVACs) to address participant needs and promote access and equity (\$2 million General Fund annually), and the State Council on Developmental Disabilities for program implementation (\$215,000 General Fund annually for the SDP orientation).

**3. Justification for the Change:**

This proposal will use the established \$4 million in General Fund savings described above to cover administrative costs for operating the SDP, to follow current law. Beginning in 2025-26 and each year thereafter, the \$2 million General Fund annually provided to LVACs will be redirected to cover administrative costs.

Although funding will no longer be provided to LVACs, they will continue to have an integral role advising regional centers and making recommendations about the SDP program and its implementation.

**4. Summary of Arguments in Support:**

This proposal conforms use of funding to the current law that prioritizes administrative costs of the SDP program.

**5. BCP or Estimate Issue # and Title:** [Local Assistance Estimate, Self-Determination Program Expenditures and Population, page J-2](#)