

February 11, 2026

Important notice from the Department of Developmental Services about:

QIP- PROVIDER ELIGIBILITY TO EARN THE QUALITY INCENTIVE RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-27

D-2026-Quality Incentive Program-003

What to Know

This directive explains how providers can participate in the Quality Incentive Program (QIP) to get paid their full rate in fiscal year (FY) 2026-27. To participate in the QIP, service providers must follow all of the rules listed here:

- Have provided services in FY 2024-25
- Used one of the service codes that are part of rate reform
- Participated in the Fall 2025 QIP data collection
- Meet compliance standards for:
 - [Electronic Visit Verification \(EVV\)](#)
 - [Home and Community Base Services \(HCBS\) Settings Final Rule](#)
 - [Independent Audits \[WIC section 4652.5\]](#)
 - Registration in the [Provider Directory](#)
- New service providers, or providers reactivating an old vendor number, must have been approved to provide services on or after July 1, 2025
 - While getting approved to be a vendor, these two groups have to fill out a survey about how many people they can serve.

What's Changing

This directive does not affect how individuals or families receive services. This directive is for regional centers and providers. The directive updates and clarifies information about QIP eligibility that was shared last year in [D-2025-Quality Incentive Program-015](#).

Questions?

Email QIPQuestions@dds.ca.gov.

Learn More

For more information, visit [Quality Incentive Program \(QIP\) : CA Department of Developmental Services](https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/vendor-provider/quality-incentive-program/). (<https://www.dds.ca.gov/rc/vendor-provider/quality-incentive-program/>)

