

Standardized Intake Development Plan

To find out if you are eligible for regional center services, you contact the regional center to begin the intake process. Currently these intake processes are done differently at each regional center, however, they all involve 5 keys steps. Infants and toddlers under age 3 use the Early Start intake process, and individuals age 3 and over use the Lanterman intake process.

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) is creating one way for all regional centers to do each of these intake processes. This is being done in phases. The plan for standardizing each of the key steps of the Early Start and Lanterman processes is shown below.

EARLY START INTAKE PROCESS (under age 3)

Key Steps in the Process		2026	2027	2028	2029
1	You contact the regional center, or you are referred by someone else		Establish	Test	
2	You are contacted and must provide information and consent for an evaluation and assessments			Establish	Test
3	You participate in an initial evaluation and assessment			Establish	Test
4	You are informed about your infant or toddler's eligibility for Early Start, Provisional Eligibility, or Lanterman		Establish	Test	
5	If your infant or toddler is eligible, you participate in a meeting to complete the Individualized Family Service Plan			Establish	Test

LANTERMAN INTAKE PROCESS (age 3 and over)

Key Steps in the Process		2026	2027	2028	2029
1	You contact the regional center, or you are referred by someone else		Establish	Test	
2	You are contacted and must provide information			Establish	Test
3	You are informed about your eligibility, or if assessment is needed to determine eligibility		Establish	Test	
4	If needed, you participate in multidisciplinary assessments			Establish	Test
5	You are informed about your eligibility for Lanterman		Establish	Test	

- "Establish" includes providing direction to regional centers about policies, procedures, and/or standardized forms to use.
- "Test" involves at least one regional center using the new items to figure out if any changes are needed before they are finalized.
- Plans for all regional centers to use the new items will follow. This cannot be done until there is an understanding of what the changes will be, and how much time is needed to prepare to make the changes.