

5th Annual California Native American Symposium on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

"Taking Action to Preserve Culture Through Inclusion & Access"

Hosted by the California Department of Developmental Services, Acorns to Oak Trees, and San Diego Regional Center

Symposium Week at a Glance • October 29 & 30, 2026 • Pala, California

Two Days, One Purpose

Thursday, October 29 — Symposium Day 1

Time	Activity
7:30 AM	Registration opens • Breakfast provided
8:30 AM	Opening Ceremony: Blessing & Bird Singers
9:45 AM	Opening Plenary: Taking Action to Preserve Culture Through Inclusion & Access
11:15 AM	Workshop Session 1 • choose from four concurrent workshops
12:15 PM	Lunch provided • Resource tables & networking
1:15 PM	Workshop Session 2 • choose from four concurrent workshops
2:45 PM	Workshop Session 3 • morning workshops repeat
4:00 PM	Day 1 close • Resource tables & networking
5:30 PM	Social Hour hosted by Home of Guiding Hands

Friday, October 30 — Symposium Day 2

Time	Activity
8:00 AM	Breakfast & networking
8:30 AM	Opening Blessing & Video
9:00 AM	Plenary: California Department of Education Special Education Update — federal changes, California's response and what they mean for tribal communities
10:45 AM	Workshop Session 4 • Friday workshops
11:45 AM	Lunch provided • Resource tables & networking
1:00 PM	Workshop Session 5 • Friday workshops repeat
2:00 PM	Closing Plenary: Action Planning & Commitments, followed by Closing Ceremony
3:00 PM	Walk-in developmental assessments with Acorns to Oak Trees (until 5:00 PM)

Registration & Hotel

Airport: San Diego International Airport

Symposium registration: Free for attendees and includes breakfast and lunch both symposium days. Register at:

[Register for the symposium \(Whova\)](#)

Hotel: Pala Casino Spa & Resort. Use group code G26IDDSYMPOSIUM when booking.

On-site assessments: Acorns to Oak Trees offers developmental assessments on-site, both days at no cost.

Questions: [Email info@acorns2oak.com](mailto:info@acorns2oak.com)