

# REGIONAL CENTER ELIGIBILITY



## Early Start

### EARLY START ELIGIBILITY

Infants aged 0 to 36 months are eligible for early invention/early start services, if:

1. They have a documented developmental delay (at least 33%) in one of the following domains
  - Cognition
  - Communication
  - Social or emotional
  - Adaptive development
  - Physical, including fine/gross motor, vision, and hearing
2. Have established risk conditions of known origin with a high probability of resulting in delayed development.
3. Are at high risk of having a substantial developmental disability due to a combination (two or more) of biomedical risk factors. These include, but are not limited to, prematurity or low birth weight, low Apgar scores, neonatal seizures, prenatal substance exposure, and accident or illness, etc.

*17 California Code of Regulations §52022  
California Government Code §95014  
Welfare and Institutions Code §4642*

### EARLY START TIMELINES

The initial evaluation and assessment for eligibility, and the development of the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) for those eligible, must be completed within 45 days of the date that the regional center receives the referral.

*17 California Code of Regulations §52086  
California Government Code §95020*

### EARLY START SERVICES

- Family training and counseling
- Speech and language therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Psychological services
- Service coordination
- Medical services for diagnostic or evaluation purposes
- Early identification, screening, and assessment
- Vision services
- Assistive technology services and devices

*IDEA, Part C, §632(E)*

\*With the exception of durable medical equipment, regional centers are prohibited from purchasing services not required by federal law, including: child care; diapers; dentistry; interpreters; translators; genetic counseling; music therapy; and respite services not related to the developmental delay.

*\*DDS Budget Reductions Summary –July 2009*

# REGIONAL CENTER ELIGIBILITY



## Lanterman Act

### LANTERMAN ELIGIBILITY (AGES 3+)

Lanterman (on-going) eligibility applies to individuals age 3 and older, if:

1. They have a documented developmental disability, attributable to
  - Intellectual Disability
  - Cerebral Palsy
  - Epilepsy
  - Autism
  - Fifth Category – disabling conditions found to be *closely related to* an intellectual disability *or to require treatment similar to* that required for individuals with an intellectual disability
2. The developmental disability originated prior to age 18.
3. The prognosis is expected to continue indefinitely.
4. The developmental disability constitutes a substantial disability for that individual.\*
5. The developmental disability, as noted above, shall not be solely psychiatric, solely a learning disability, or solely physical in nature.

*Welfare and Institutions Code §4512(a)*  
*17 California Code of Regulations §54000*

#### \*SUBSTANTIAL DISABILITY

In order to be eligible for regional center services, the person must exhibit a significant functional limitation in three or more of the following areas of major life activity,

as appropriate to the person's age:

1. Learning
2. Receptive/Expressive Language
3. Self-Care
4. Self-Direction
5. Mobility
6. Capacity for Independent Living
7. Economic Self-Sufficiency

*17 California Code of Regulations §54001*  
*Welfare and Institutions Code §4512(l)*

### LANTERMAN TIMELINES

Initial intake shall be performed within 15 business days following the request for assistance. This initial intake shall include a decision to provide an assessment.<sup>1</sup>

Thereafter, the regional center has 120 calendar days to determine eligibility.

However, if the delay in the intake process would result in an unnecessary risk to the person's health and safety, then the regional center shall determine eligibility within 60 days.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Welfare and Institutions Code §4642*

<sup>2</sup>*Welfare and Institutions Code §4643(a)*

### LANTERMAN SERVICES

- Adult day program
- Behavior intervention services
- Crisis intervention services
- Day care
- Durable /non-durable medical equipment
- Independent/supported living
- Licensed residential options
- Respite
- Supported employment
- Transportation services

*\*This is a non-comprehensive list\**